

A  
*Different*  
LOOK

WORLDWIDE

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# A Different Look



Evas Photo

## 1994 MERRILLVUE

Merrillville High School  
276 East 68th Place  
Merrillville, IN 46410  
Volume 69

**THE PIRATE MASCOT,**  
Eugene Vivo, '97, gets  
the crowd pumped up  
prior to a home basket-  
ball game.



Bondara Photo

#### PAT

Farabaugh, '95, readies the pig Tom Herbert, assistant principal had to kiss when he won, or in his opinion, lost the kiss the pig contest.

#### VARSITY

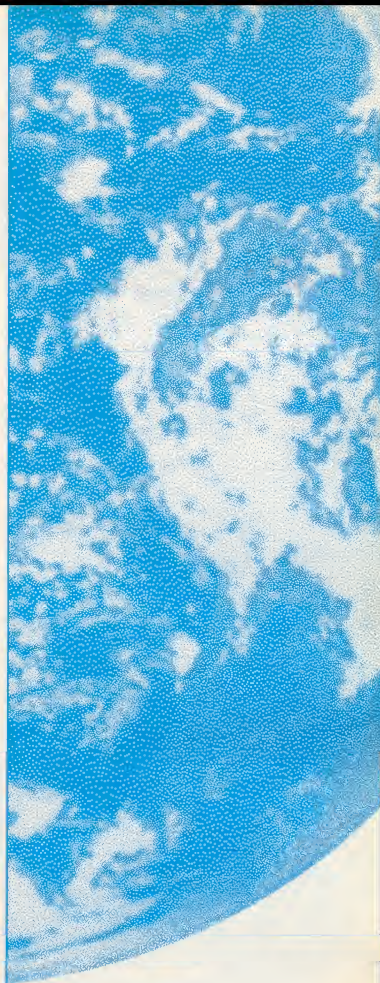
Cheerleader Monica Origel, '94, revs the crowd up during a home football game. The cheerleaders were instrumental in keeping the fans into football and basketball games.

You've probably heard the complaint that there's nothing to do in Merrillville. That point can certainly be debated, but not when it comes to MHS. From athletic contests to after school activities, our school is busy with action from sun up to sun down. Maybe since you're involved directly with MHS you don't really realize everything going on. Now here's your chance. Take **A DIFFERENT LOOK**, and take in the sights of MHS, from before school's period zero classes to every other Wednesday's Student Government meeting.





Rowe Photo





Kim Photo

**MEMBERS OF**  
the marching  
band perform  
the Star  
Spangled  
Banner before  
a home  
football game.

**BROADCAST**  
journalists Terry  
Bryant and  
Greg Bachich,  
both '94, trek  
through MHS  
videotaping  
the guests  
during the  
dedication.

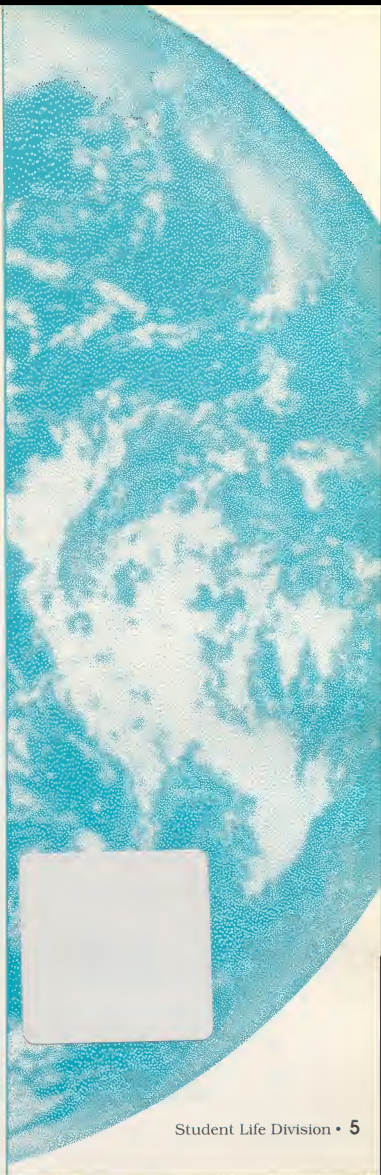
Eating lunch with your friends during the renovated lunch schedule, cheering for the basketball team in the record cold winter, and dancing the night away at prom were just a few events you could have participated in throughout the year. You didn't stop there, though - and who would blame you? In a town with nearly everything, you did your best to make the most of every situation. Having fun was your number one priority, and you were **LOOKING GOOD.**







Bondara Photo



SUMMERTIME

# PASSES QUICKLY

• students participate in numerous summertime activities.

Summer sunshine surrounded a sea of students as they shipped themselves off to summer camp. This wasn't the ordinary summer camp where the guys in bunk three decide to put frogs in your shoes, steal your clothes and your towel while you were in the shower, and short sheet your bed. These were camps like Pom-Pon camp, journalism camp, marching band camp, and band camp.

Michelle Mayers '94, along with the rest of the Pom-Pon squad, attended Pom-Pon camp this summer at Purdue. Mayers met "a lot of people from different schools in Indiana, and learned different pom-pon routines. We competed in various competitions to earn either a ribbon or a trophy. We also learned different stunts and commands."

Music was in the air for some of our MHS band members. Krista West, '94, and Tommy Gasperson, '95 attended Smith-

Walbridge Section Leader camp at Illinois University at Champagne/Urbana. They were there for four days. They worked on "marching, tuning instruments, directing songs, leadership, drill charting, performing songs, how to teach other people things, problem solving, and how to get fuller sounds out of our instruments," said West. Although there were no contests or awards, they learned both whistle and verbal commands, and showmanship. Jennifer won a Drum Major First Class award in Corps Style marching, which required the passing of four major phases of intense written exams in which you could not miss more than three to five questions.

On the academic side of camp, Cathy Navarro and Dina Weis, both '94, attended journalism workshops at Indiana University during the summer. Navarro and Weis were two of ten journalism students who traveled to I.U. or Ball State for such workshops. • by Tina Yurechko

#### DURING THE ANNUAL

Fourth of July parade down Broadway the cheerleaders perform one of their many routines. Besides marching in the parade, the cheerleaders also attended summer camps.



Mayers Photo



Summers Photo



Bondar Photo

**ONE WEEK PRIOR TO** the beginning of the new school year several students were invited to attend a leadership workshop held in the guidance conference room. Tom Herbert, assistant principal, organizes the annual workshop.



Grayda Photo

#### **BESIDES WORKING HARD**

for a week's time at journalism workshops those students attending took time and made many new friends. Sunnye Durham, '94, and her roommate, Tiffany Alger, from Van Wirt High School in Ohio, pose on the fire escape of a Ball State building.

**JUSTIN RAMAGE, '94,** struts his stuff to the "Humpty Dance" at the Ball State Journalism Workshops in July. Several journalism students attended workshops at Ball State and Indiana University this summer to learn more about student publications.

SENATOR LUGAR

# DEDICATES SCHOOL

*• after years of renovations,  
MHS celebrated the end.*

**Y**ears of construction and waiting came to an end September 26. The dedication of MHS was held to showcase the school and all of its attributes that have made many people feel MHS will be the school of the future.

Indiana Senator Richard Lugar attended the festivities and served as the featured guest speaker. During his speech, Lugar spoke of the future and how MHS is well on its way of providing the services needed to help students reach their maximum potential.

Other speakers included school board president Arthur T. Collins, MHS principal Dr. Daniel C. Rapacz, English Department Head Linda Fry, Parent Advisory Council member Rochelle Hughes, and student government president Wilfred Vivo, '94.

It was when Collins spoke that it was

announced the new fieldhouse would bear the name of long time school board member Bryant J. Matthews, in a ceremony that would be held later in the year.

After the speakers took their turn speaking on behalf of their respective organizations those attending the dedication program were allowed to go on self-guided tours of the main building as well as the athletic complexes.

The majority of faculty members were on hand at the event, with most stationed in their classes to speak with the guests. Many teachers provided demonstrations in their classes as well.

While enjoying refreshments in the cafeteria, guests were able to view different videos dealing with the MHS. Construction, the school corporation, and MHS were the topics of the video presentations.

• by Tom Gayda

**MIKE CUIEL, '95, AND**  
Tom Herbert, assistant principal, stand outside the Dr. Eleanor Lewis Art Gallery to talk with guests at the dedication.



Sandra Photo







DeViliez Photo

**SITTING UNDER THE** beautiful blue sky, MHS was open to the public September 16. This date marked the end of the years of renovations.

**DURING THE TOURS** visitors saw the student commons area outside of the media center. This area is where many students relax before school and during lunch.



DeViliez Photo

**SENIOR CLASS PRESIDENT**

David Vode talks with dedication guests. During the program Vode led the guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.



Boridia Photo

**VISITORS OF THE**  
dedication festivities  
view the athletic hall of  
fame, which is located  
west of the gymnasium.

**A DEDICATION GUEST**  
seems lost as he passes  
by the showcases in the  
main lobby, in front of  
the main office.

**AS A GESTURE OF**  
friendship, principal Dr.  
Daniel C. Rapacz  
presents Senator  
Richard Lugar with a  
MHS sweatshirt and  
shirt. Lugar was the  
featured guest at the  
dedication.



Bondra Photo



Bondra Photo



SENATOR LUGAR

# DEDICATES SCHOOL

• after years of renovations,  
MHS celebrated the end.

(continued from page 8)



DeVilbeiz Photo

**140 ACRES OF** education and athletics set on MHS grounds. The main building itself is 12 acres and houses 125 classrooms.

**DR. DANIEL C. RAPACZ**, principal, walks down the athletic hall of fame with a visitor during the dedication. Rapacz was one of many administrators on hand to talk with guests at the dedication.



Bondra Photo

Bondra Photo

HOMECOMING EXPLODES

# DESTINY AT DEMAREE

• week's festivities culminate with heart-wrenching one point loss.

**D**estiny. That one word holds so much meaning. September 20th through the 24th brought about this year's homecoming week. Destiny at Demaree, which was organized by the Student Government. Everyday held something new and exciting for the students to get involved in. Monday was "pajama day," Tuesday "flashback to the past day," Wednesday was "college sweatshirt day" and Thursday "class color day." Friday was the usual, but fitting, "purple and white day."

The annual powder puff parade was a big success in promoting school spirit. This year all the clubs and classes were able to use their own imagination and create what they thought would be the Destiny at Demaree. The National Honor Society won the competition with their float.

Lead by the cheerleaders, sounds of music could be heard throughout all of Demaree Stadium during the pep rally which followed the parade. During the event, the co-captains of the football team, Tony Bartolomeo and Greg Smith, both '94, were given the microphone to speak their thoughts on the game and thank the student body for their awesome spirit and support. The microphone was then turned over to head coach Rick Wimmer for the announcement of Mr. Football.

The football team voted Bartolomeo as this year's Mr. Football. After the announcement,

the annual powder puff games were underway. It was the time for students to put a temporary hold on school unity and concentrate on supporting their own classes.

On Friday, with all the cheers of victory, it was not to be destiny for the Pirates. They took on the Andean '59ers in "The Battle of Broadway" on October 1st. Although the game was considered "boring" by many, Andean ruffled the Pirates feathers and handed them a 3-0 loss.

The halftime festivities consisting a spectacular performance from the MHS Band of Pirates and the pom-poms and the coronation ceremony of the homecoming court consisting of Wendy Adams, Tiffany Albee, Angie Byrom, Angela Mish, and Monica Origel, all '94. In a touching moment, last year's queen Hope Jusko, '93, crowned Byrom her successor.

The Homecoming dance "Tonight was Made for You and Me" was held on Saturday October 2nd. Black, silver, and magenta decorations highlighted the student commons area giving it a romantic essence.

"It's amazing, the kids really did a great job with homecoming! I felt good to sit back and relax knowing that everything was in good hands," says Rosellen Kozel, Student Government Adviser, about the clubs efforts during homecoming week. **•by Kimberly Anderson**

**TONY BARTOLOMEO,** '94, proudly accepts the Mr. Football award from head coach Rick Wimmer. The football team voted on Mr. Football.







Karin PHOTO



Fairbrough Photo



Karin PHOTO

**SHARING A MOMENT**  
alone, Katie Shapcroff, '97, and Tom Cseke, '96, take a breather at the Homecoming Dance. Several couples attended the dance, which ended the "Destiny at Demaree" homecoming week.

**BEAMING WITH**  
happiness, Angie Byrom, '94 stands proudly as 1992 Homecoming Queen Hope Jusko crowns her 1993 queen as her father watches. Byrom was in stiff competition among close friends. Three of her fellow queen candidates were all in her advanced composition class.

**AS A PART OF THE**  
homecoming parade, the junior powder puff team mounted on top of a fire engine to make their way to Demaree Stadium where they faced the junior class. The sophomore class also faced the freshmen class in a two quarter game.



**SEAN O'HARA, '94,** grins as Cathy Navarro, '94, announces he won the sexy legs contest. Those fans attending the game decided the legs winner by clapping for their choice.



*Farabough Photo*

**DANCING TO** celebrate a victory, several students attended the informal homecoming dance after the basketball game.

**CONGRATULATED BY** her friends, Tiffany Albee, '94, smiles with the announcement that she won the homecoming crown. Ben Parrish, '94, escorted Albee.





Farabaugh Photo

HOMECOMING

# SPIRIT DISPLAYED

• festivities include sexy legs, parade, and more.

What do Tiffany Albee, Sean O'Hara, both '94, the Class of '96, and the boys varsity basketball team have in common? They were all big winners at the basketball homecoming January 28. Albee was crowned homecoming queen, O'Hara received a trophy for having the sexiest legs among senior class males, the Class of '96 won the float parade with their creation, and the basketball team downed LaPorte in a Duneland Conference match-up.

"I can't believe to tell you how good I felt. It had to have been the best night of my life," said Albee.

Homecoming activities were lucky to have happened at all school was cancelled because of the extreme cold weather since

during the planning stages of the festivities. Student Government members hustled to get the events to go, and came through without a hitch.

"We had a poor turnout for the sexy legs contest, but thanks to Dave Vode, we ended up with a good group for missing two days the week before. We were happy with the results," said Benita Cookston, '94.

It wouldn't have been homecoming without a fun filled spirit week to start it off. This year the spirit days included "opposite sex" day, "cartoon character" day, and pajamas" day. Several students and faculty members participated in the daily events. • by Tom Gayda



Farabaugh Photo



Rowe Photo

SHOWING OFF THEIR award winning float, the Class of '96 reacts to the announcement that their float won first place in the homecoming parade.

AT TIMES THEY EVEN

# TALK ALIKE

• *some twins look alike, but they sure don't think alike.*

Unlike the twins of television's *Full House* fame, twins at MHS both have to show up to school daily. There are several sets of twins at MHS, some identical, some not. Both kinds agree, though, that being a twin has ups and downs.

Many twins agree that a good point to having an identical sibling is that they always have someone to talk to.

"(You) always have someone to talk to, someone to blame when you get in trouble, someone to cover up for you, and someone you can borrow clothes from," says Amy DeNardo, '96.

Even though not all twins look alike, some people still confuse them.

"Although me and my twin sister, Diana, don't look alike, teachers, friends, and others sometimes get us mixed up by

names. It doesn't really bother me, but you would think they could tell us apart," says Amanda Van Dusseldorp, '95.

For Amy DeNardo, who is identical to her sister Ann, identity mix ups aren't as easy to let go unnoticed.

Ann DeNardo says, "Mix ups happen all the time, so you have to live with it. However, you get tired of it after a while if someone keeps doing it."

Amy agrees, "I feel upset and hurt when people mess up our names because I am a different person. I am totally different from Ann. We may look alike, but we have different perspectives on life, and when a person calls me her, it makes me feel like they can not accept the thought I am another person."

Obviously, twins may look alike, but inside they are just as different as any two other people. • by Tom Gayda

JEN AND JEFF KROL, both '94, sit outside the media center. The Krol's, like most twins at MHS are not identical.







#### AMY AND ANN

DeNardo, both '95, keep everyone guessing who is whom in the student commons area.

#### THE TWIN TOWERS!

Rachel and Rhonda Price, both '96, pal around at lunch time in the cafeteria. The girls are known as the twin towers since both play basketball.



# SPIRIT PROUD PIRATES

• purple and white were  
worn on every Friday

School spirit shined again this year as the Class of '96 repeated a victory in the annual spirit point contest conducted by principal Dr. Daniel C. Rapacz. The contest was held throughout the year, giving the students ample chances to earn points in a variety of ways.

The biggest spirit point event was held every Friday. Students wearing purple and white clothing on this day received a point as a way of showing school spirit.

Extra-curricular activities also provided the chance to get points. Sporting events and plays were two of the ways students picked up points throughout the school year. In addition, unannounced absentee days and tardy days were added to the class totals. Getting your parents to attend

parent-teacher conferences was another way of getting points for your class.

With all these chances to get points, along with others, the Class of '96 pulled out a second victory and went to the Indiana Dunes to bathe in the sun on May 23 as a reward for winning. While the sophomores enjoyed a beautiful sunny day, the rest of the classes sat in school with their noses in their books daydreaming about the sophomores at the beach.

The Student Government did many things to help promote school spirit. They sponsored the football and basketball homecoming weeks as well as several other activities. Many of the Student Government activities were also used as spirit point activities.

• by Tom Gayda & Sara Nicholls

VIC LOPEZ AND TONY Bartolomeo, both '94, join the crowd in cheering on the varsity basketball team. The crowd got into the game as the team gathered steam showing that school spirit was alive at MHS.





#### **ATHLETIC DIRECTOR**

Janis Qualizza proudly accepts the Sectional Trophy for the school from members of the boys basketball team. The young team surprised opponents as they grew stronger as the season progressed.

#### **STUDENTS INDICATE**

they want a victory at an early home football game. Although the team had lost many seniors to graduation, fans looked forward to another season of Pirate football.



## DANCES

# PROVIDE ENJOYMENT

• semi-formals give students the chance to socialize.

**M**ary had a big big dance, big big dance, big big dance; Mary had a big big dance, she could not wait to go.

Dances are a fun part of the big MHS activity list. Every school year is traditionally marked by four formal dances; Homecoming, Turnabout, Valentine's, and Prom. Usually, students also have several informal dances to look forward to, but this year, only one dance was held after a home basketball game, and the yearly MORP dance was held in the Hall of Flags. MORP is an informal dance that is sponsored by SADD. MORP is prom spelled backwards, and encourages students to be responsible on prom night by not drinking and driving. Lynn Prashchak, SADD sponsor explained, "This proves that you can have fun without drugs or alcohol. Also, you don't need a date, you don't have to spend lots of money or go to Chicago to have fun." A mere eight

students attended. Perhaps this was the reason MHS did not house many dances this year; because most students don't care.

Homecoming, sponsored by Student Government, was held in the Hall of Flags on October 2nd, and marked the end of homecoming week. The theme was "This night was made for you and me," and put a lively cap on the spirited week of events. Turnabout, the dance where the girls get to ask the boys out, was held in the Hall of Flags on November 20th and sponsored by FEA. The Valentines Dance, sponsored by the Sunshine Society on the evening of February 18th, was also held in the Hall of Flags, and was a welcome break to some monotony because it featured ice sculptures and video screens. Finally, the end-all be-all of dances, prom was held on May 21st at Saint Elijah Serbian Hall.

•by Rachel Torres

**TIME OUT! IT'S TIME TO** stop dancing for awhile and chat with friends.

The Homecoming dance, sponsored by Student Government, was held in a concourse decorated with black, magenta, and silver balloons.





Farabaugh Photo



Farabaugh Photo



Genuska Photo

**HARRIETTE KELLY, 96,** clowns around as she poses for pictures. Getting pictures taken to capture the memories add to share with friends was part of the fun of attending the formal and semi-formal dances.

**STUDENTS GATHER TO** show their support for the Rosado family. NHS sponsored a Benefit Dance to help the family cope with Matt's medical bills after he collapsed on the track after running the mile in gym.

**ENJOYING THE MUSIC,** students relax and have a good time at the Homecoming dance. Although the team lost the battle of Broadway, students still enjoyed the annual festivities.



# RELATIONSHIPS DATING

• playing dating games  
spices up relationships

# COUPLES

**B**aby, you are the only one that I love." "I would never cheat on you." "I just want to be with one person . . . you baby."

These statements are often heard in the dating scene. Some people are on the receiving end of these comments while others are making them. Whatever the case may be, it is most likely that a love game is taking place.

The question is, why do people actually have the need to play these games? Is it an ego trip or do some people just want to date around with more than one person but they are afraid to tell them? Kosta Nuses, '95, said, "I do it because it is interesting to see if the girl loves you or not."

On the other hand, Jenny Gonzalez, '95, commented, "I think people play games because it makes the relationship more exciting."

Gabriela Garcia, '95, agreed, "I think it is fun. The guy does too. If it's a serious relationship, I won't do it."

If one of the people in the couple plays on the other, then both of them tend to think that it is ok. Although they are both going to get hurt, the game will keep going, according to a majority of MHS students asked.

Various students, articles, and even movies spotlight the fact that teenagers seem to get bored with a relationship quickly. Maybe people

are just not ready to start a serious relationship.

Often when someone tries to pull a game on another person, the famous saying prevails. "What goes around, comes around."

At the same time, many students are serious with their boyfriend or girlfriend. Charles Krueger, '94, said, "I don't play games. Maybe once in a while to build suspense, but I'm not good at it. I love my lady."

Jennifer Wood, '95, also seems to be in a serious relationship. She commented, "I have my boyfriend so I don't need to do stuff like that. I think that it is alright for people to do that, but only to an extent."

What is a good way to stop playing games? Based on teenagers' responses, the first step is honesty. The couple should talk things out. Then they need to make sure they are good for each other. Make sure that the feelings are mutual in the relationship.

People have different feelings about playing games in relationships. However in the game of life, almost all of these so-called players will realize that there is more to life and love than playing. As the wheels of love continue to turn, the only way someone can begin to understand and distinguish the difference is to experience it themselves.

•by Tina Todoroska

**FRIENDS THAD AGEE,**  
and Sherai Latimer,  
both '95, ponder what  
they will do for the  
weekend. The relation-  
ship between good  
friends is special  
allowing a person to  
share the triumphs and  
the defeats in life.



Bondia Photo





**ONE OF THE BIG** advantages of having a steady boyfriend or girlfriend is knowing that you will always have a date for the "big dance."

**BRIAN MOLA, 94,** enjoys a quiet dance with his mother at the annual Mommy-Daddy Date Night. The relationship between parents and their children allows for unconditional love.

**RYAN PARLOCK AND** Nicole Hiatt, both '95, sign in at the prom. Some students attend prom with a steady boyfriend or girlfriend while others begin a new relationship with a date to prom.



**THE CAST OF THE REVUE** rallies around the television during the performance. Performances this year revolved around a television theme.



*Farabough photo*

**JENNIFER DANTON AND Michelle Verbik**, both '95, sing "You've Got a Friend," at the annual Revue. Both are active participants in MHS productions.

**BELTING OUT "RUN TO You,"** Robin Phillips, '94, performs a solo at the Revue. Phillips' brother Brian, '97, also performed.



REVUE

# SHOWING TALENT

• numbers featured  
old radio shows



Farabaugh photo



Farabaugh photo

What do you get when you mix two family duets, a hint of comedy, an essence of street funk, and a splash of John Travolta? The result is "Don't Touch That Dial" the theme for this year's Revue. The theme was not without controversy, although, Tina Yurechko, '94, commented, "I thought the theme ruined the show this year. It involved more drama than actual talent."

Regardless of people's opinions, the show had to go on after weeks of auditions and rehearsals. The Revue made its debut on April 11th and 12th. The cast worked harder than ever to try and live up to previous years. The absence of local bands was a great loss, since the bands usually are the center of attention.

"I felt that the Revue would have been better if some bands played. They always got the crowd going, like you were at a live concert," said Shelly Penzato, '95. Instead the cast substituted drama and comedy scenes for drumbeats and electric guitars.

Lena Gilfillan, '95 said "Last year's was better, but it was enough to make me laugh." Most of the cast's feeling toward the audience, was that they did not even try to appreciate or understand the talent and hard work that went into this year's Revue.

"The first act was very good, stated Cheryl Gonzalez, '95, but it was a shame that people had to be rude and leave during the second act."



Farabaugh photo

Some highlights from the Revue consisted of an annual appearance by the all girl dance team, United Colors, a duet sung by Abigail and Eugene Vivo, Harry Sims' hilarious rendition of Saturday Night Fever, and Jennifer Dainton singing "Let's Give 'Em Something to Talk About," and she definitely did. "Harry Sims was great!" added Ben Parrish, '94.

"Sims was definitely one of the most appreciated cast members during the whole Revue. To add to his new-found fame, Sims commented, "It's got that groovy beat baby. Disco will live forever."

This year's cast had to overcome controversy, criticism, and cynicism and try to put on a great show. The Revue displayed a wide variety of talent among the MHS student body, whether it was a rap group, dance group, or an acting group. This may have been the last year for the traditional Revue, but current students, future students, and alumni will be left with "Don't Touch That Dial" as a final impression. Whether the impressions are positive or negative, the show had to go on, which did create some finer moments, with Harry Sims at the top of that list. Yurechko closed, "The Revue is the student body's way of saying, "Hey, look what I can do!" This is our way of showing it off. It is a way of expressing ourselves. The rest is up to the audience."

• Kimberly Anderson

AS IF THERE WEREN'T enough talk shows already, Will Vivo, '94, Julia Zolondz, '95, and Mike Pratscher, '94, perform their own version of a talk show at the Revue. This talk show was one of the most entertaining moments of the program.

**PROM QUEEN LEAH** Frink and Prom King T.J. Lux, both '95, join their dates in leading the Grand March outside across the parking lot. The Grand March is a tradition which allows the community a chance to see students in all of their finery.



**DANCING TO "FOREVER Young"** by Rod Stewart as well as music by 10,000 Maniacs and other pop artists, students take to the dance floor.



**PROM QUEEN LEAH** Frink, '95, and her date head for the dance floor. Frink and Prom King T.J. Lux, '95, reigned over the traditional event.





PROM

# ENCHANTED GARDEN

• a new look added  
romance to the evening

You walked into the prom, and were overcome with many different emotions and impressions. You caught your breath as you took in the beauty and the romance of the scene before you.

Huge creme pillars intertwined with green ivy, roses, tulips, and lilies filled the room with a powerful gothic presence. The flowers added a romantic and innocent essence to the prom. Sheer creme brocade was draped all around, giving off style and elegance.

Couples took a break from dancing and conversing to make a special wish at a beautiful water fountain flowing with sparkling blue water. Beautiful crystal glasses adorned every table with floral accents overflowing their brims. The Enchanted Garden of

Eden-Forever Young, the prom's theme, suited the environment perfectly. Students were amazed at the romantic feel of this year's prom as compared to the bleakness of years past. Instead of the same boring colors, this year's prom was natural with its hunter green, elegant with its creme, and romantic and passionate with its purple accents.

Although the crowning of prom queen Leah Frink, '95, and king T.J. Lux, '95, and the Grand March were more traditional, romance reigned that night. The flowers, and romantic decor really appealed to the senses to make a wonderful, magical, romantic, and elegant prom. Most of all, this prom had Finesse!

•by Michelle Borman



**AWAITING A MAGICAL** evening, prom goes sign in as they enter St. Elijah's Serbian-American Hall. In spite of the growing cost of attending prom, students continue to attend the annual event.

# TRENDS FASHIONS DISPLAYED

• *students sported the latest clothes at MHS*

Is it the House of Style (sans Cindy Crawford, of course)? No, think again. Fashion at MHS is guaranteed to have much more detrimental impact than Kate Moss or Naomi Campbell could ever imagine. Although students do not prance up and down runways, the halls of MHS serve their purpose of displaying various forms of fashion from Cross Colours to Doc Martens.

Out with the old and in with the new: 1992 meant the exit of some labels and brands, while others experienced a complete rebirth. "Skidz" mania took a detour for the worst. The high waisted, no pocket, too many pleated Z Cavarricci's bit the dust awhile back. Instead, they were magically transformed into the over-night French sensation from Marithe' and Francois Girbaud.

Meanwhile, on the safer side, Mickey

Mouse, Donald Duck, Bugs Bunny, and the rest of the Walt Disney World/Looney Tunes gang have dared to step out of the animation world and into living color. Of course, Beavis and Butt-Head have also made similar ventures in fashion expansion, replacing the "over-achiever" Bart Simpson.

On the other hand, Kari Kani, which can be yours for a nominal price of \$60.00 to \$75.00 a sweatshirt. But there are always bootleggers to consider- a cheap insult to style.

But clothes do not make the man. It can not be forgotten that the individuals who have been wearing a distinct style that experienced the poser's syndrome. The market finally picked up their style, and so did many at MHS.

• **by Sunnye Durham and Staci Skura**

**A BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF** choir practice displays the variety of fashions worn by MHS students.

Still that comfortable old standby T-shirts and jeans or jeans shorts seems to be favored by many for their comfort and versatility.



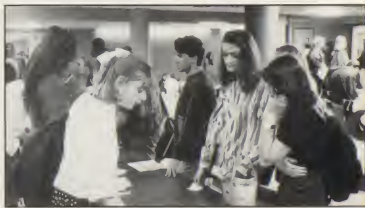


**DRESSES FOR PROM**  
had long narrow lines. Many were made of rich shimmering fabrics without the sequins which have been so popular in past years.

**COLOR ME BLACK.**  
Black was the in color for semi-formal dresses at football Homecoming this year. Dresses were also simpler in style.



**TRENDS IN SCHOOL**  
clothes were as varied as the students wearing the clothes. Nevertheless, most students favored a loose casual style for comfort most school days.



Bondia Photo



**JULIE OBETKOVSKI** receives her diploma from Dr. Tony Lux. She was one of two people in her class to earn a gold medal indicating an Honor's Diploma, a gold stole showing membership in NHS, and purple and silver honor cord indicating membership in Quill and Scroll, an international honorary society for journalists.



**ROBERT H. HENRY**, the featured speaker, gave an energetic speech peppered with references to his own children as he tried to give the class an idea of what to expect after graduation.



*Farabough Photo*

**THE WAITING IS THE** worst part. Seniors, faculty, and administrators wait on the bridge to the Radisson Hotel to hear the strains of "Pomp and Circumstance."





Farabaugh Photo



# GRADUATION FINAL CEREMONY

• *seniors think back to special times*

These are the days." Yes, those words from the 10,000 Maniacs hold much truth to many high school students. So what happens when high school is over? Students have just spent 13 years of their lives getting up at the same time, studying the same courses, and learning from the same teachers. And after this year's final day June 6th, what is left but a bunch of memories that can never be changed or touched? So what is next?

Seniors are now leaving the security blanket of a modern high school society and are plummeting into the whirlwind society of adults. The possibilities are endless. Most will further pursue their educations at colleges of their choice, or in some cases, where financial situations obligate them to go. Others will take a break from school to travel and enjoy some time off.

Everyone's reactions will differ, but for MHS students, the one thing they will have in common is the basis of their education, Merrillville High School and the memories and lessons they will take with them after they are gone.

Some memories may be too terrible to want to recall, and others may be some of the happiest, most precious moments and happenings of their lives. But the common thread of all, is the effects that their education has upon their lives and on each other. Some will

become doctors, lawyers, mothers, secretaries, yes, even teachers but although occupations differ and lives will be totally rearranged, the one thing that will never change is the memories and all that has been taught and actually learned.

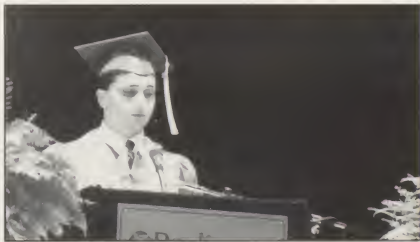
As graduation announcements are being collected and commencement plans are being concocted, seniors will be caught up in the excitement and anticipation of ending one life and beginning a new one. But what will never end are the memories and feelings. "These are the days, you'll remember." That most definitely sums up the truth.

Commencement can be defined as a kind of "Rite of Passage." Gone will be the security and ease of teachers, classrooms, and friends. In will be the many different possibilities that this year's seniors will choose. Whatever road that may be chosen will in some way reflect Merrillville High.

When this year's seniors climb upon the stage and accept the facsimile of a diploma, what will they be thinking? Christina Moffit comments, "Realization that this part of my life is over and that there is so much more to come. My life is just beginning."

Some will be scared, others will be daring, but all will be remembering.

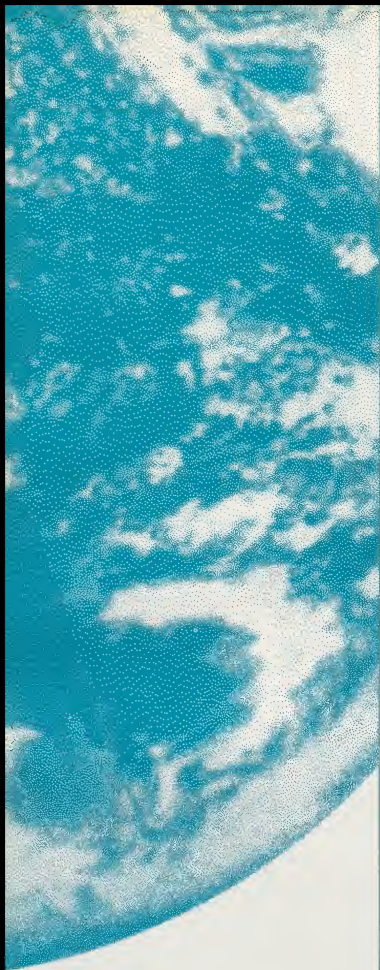
• **by Kimberly Anderson**



Farabaugh Photo

#### VALEDICTORIAN RISTE

Gorseski presents his speech at the June 6 Commencement Ceremony. Valedictorian Jennifer Shaffer, salutatorian Wanda Olvera, and senior class president David Vode also spoke to the class.







Bondra Photo



Bondra Photo

**STACI SKURA**  
and Sunnye  
Durham, both  
'94, look over  
notes for a test  
later that day.

**BRIEN DELICH,**  
'94, cuts a  
piece of wood  
in his shop  
class. Many  
shop classes  
are offered at  
MHS.

If you were hoping to slack off during your high school years, you weren't going to do it at MHS. With the completion of the multi-million dollar renovation, our school became the school of the 21st century. Computer labs for each department, television sets in each classroom to enhance learning, and educators with great experience helped us all. It's for sure, with our technology here, we were all **LOOKING TO THE FUTURE.**

# Athletes & Broadcasters

Good Morning. It's 5:30, and you're up this early to be in class by 6:00. What is this? Welcome to Period 0. This class is truly for the serious student. Every weekday morning starting at 6:00A.M., the Wellness Center is open for these students to lift, run, and condition in the period 0 advanced fitness class. Meanwhile, three days a week in the broadcast studio, the broadcast journalism class is at work editing the pieces for the next show, and learning about the workings of a studio.

These classes are truly for morning people.

What are the benefits of the advanced fitness class? "Although it's tiring and long, you can get better exercised, and feel good to start the day," stated Jason Galoozis, '94.

Justin Ramage, '94 added, "It gives me a chance to keep physically fit, especially after football season."

Of course, this class must have an esteemed leader. This would be Coach Rick Wimmer. Galoozis describes him as, "a devoted, hard worker, and a

great banjo player."

Are you ready to sign up yet? Ramage commented, "If you can get up at 5:30 in the morning, I'd say go for it."

The broadcast journalism classes were also up at the crack of dawn to prepare for their future.

"Most of the students who are here are serious about possibly making this a career, because it takes a lot of dedication to come to school at 6:40 three times a week," stated Andrea Wirtz, '94.

Greg Bachich, '94, commented, "I'm grateful for the extra time we are allowed, because it is one block of time we can use without interruption."

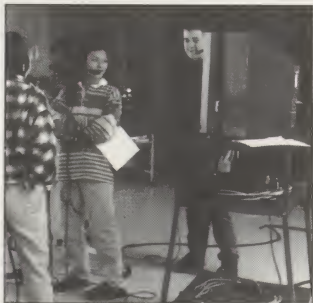
This class was taught in tag-team action by Jean Stanford and Steve DeVillez.

"Mr. DeVillez takes care of the production aspects, and I have the writing portion," commented Stanford.

Both of these "Period 0" classes have many advantages, and offered students another opportunity to excel at MHS.

• by Rachel Torres

**PREPARING FOR THE** show, Andrea Wirtz, '94, Judy Adams, '95, and David Evans, '94, watch the show opening on the monitor. PNN started to broadcast on Wednesday mornings during homeroom, but then it was moved to Friday.



Bondra photo





Bondra photo

**Q.** How would you react if period zero classes were made mandatory?



"I think it should be up to the student to decide."

• April Pratscher, '96

"Why don't they just make school an hour longer?"

• Jason Janiszewski, '94



"Our school is already one that starts earliest and ends latest."

• Danielle Ramirez, '95

"The time we go to school is early enough."

• David Aimone, '97



Bondra photo

**STEVE DEVILLE SHOWS** Greg Bachich, '94, how to tape Senator Lugar's press conference. The TV equipment had just been installed.

**IN 5, 4, 3, 2, 1.....** PNN's crew usually had to be at the school by 6:30 a.m. on the day the live show was to air to practice.

**Q:** Do you think MHS is used to the best of its ability?



"Yes. The weight room is always full and the fieldhouse is always used."

• Joe Hussey, '95

"Yes, when it's not broken down."

• Chrissy Pozgay, '94

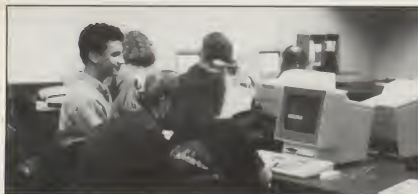


"I think so."

• Jeff Zarnik, '96

"Yes, because we have lots of neat stuff and everyone can use it."

• Wava Riddle, '97



*Farabaugh photo*

**IN ONE OF THE MANY ENGLISH** computer labs, Ryan Rogers and Kathy Cannon, both '95, discuss their paper for Barb Koby's American literature class.

**SEAN BRIGGS, '96, TAKES ADVAN-** tage of the synthesizer lab during class. Choir director Roger Emig taught a new synthesizer class this year.



# Televisions & Computers

New computers, phones in every room, and TV screens everywhere you look. What is this all about? A fashion show for technology companies? Nope. This is a sign of the times.

MHS has been called a "mini college for high school students." True, it has more than what most state colleges have, but many of the students at MHS have no idea what they have here at their fingertips. There is technology in abundance, and most students are only worried about when the vending machines are going to be refilled.

Our weight room and fieldhouse is a prime example. Andy Crane, '96, states, "It is very futuristic and ahead of our time. We have more training and exercise equipment than most small colleges. Most kids say, 'Oh yeah, we have TV's and we have no use for them except to watch PNN on Wednesdays.' They have no idea what they have and it is all going to go to waste."

Crane feels that the students

do not fully understand what type of facilities they are surrounded by, and they make no effort to find out what they have. He, on the other hand, does know what MHS has on hand as far as recreation and training equipment.

Crane says, "I am getting use from the things here, and it is a shame that no one makes an attempt to explore what our parents paid money for. They (administration and taxpayers) spent all of this money, and we just ignore everything that has been given to us. They hand us all of these expensive pieces of equipment, and we are letting them sit there and collect dust."

Cathy Almone, '94, says, "I get a lot of use out of the fieldhouse. I am in Step Aerobics, I use the computers to type all of my papers, and I also think that the students need to get acquainted with all of the things here and use them."

• by Tina Yurechko



**GOING OVER HIS WORK**  
graphic arts teacher Dave Teeters sits at one of the many light tables in his room. The graphic arts classes produce several of the Merrillville Community School Corporation pamphlets and other materials.

Evans photo

Bondra photo



# Lunch & Studying

As students came back to school this year they found out that along with their new classes, they had a fifteen minute study period. This time was used to compensate for the new overlapping lunch hours. A student would either go to class, go to lunch and then go to study period, or go to study period, then class, and finally lunch.

There were many different possible choices. It depended on who the fourth period teacher was. During this time students could either study for a test or do their homework.

"I really do my homework. I would rather be serious here at

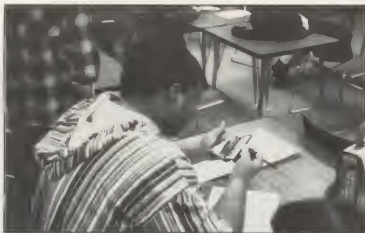
school than at home. This way I can have more free time in the evening," commented Keith Lester '95.

Although many students concentrated on their assignments, some enjoyed being able to sit back and talk with their friends for a while.

"I try to do my homework, but I usually end up talking to the person that's sitting next to me," said Brande Swisher '94.

No matter what a student did during this time, practically the entire student body agreed that the fifteen minutes was really needed.

• by Patrick Farabaugh



Farabaugh Photo

**LATRICE WASHINGTON,** '94, takes a break from studying to look at dance pictures of Jennie Wood, '95, and '93 MHS graduate Kevin Lohse.





Geruska Photo

# Q • Is study period worth the time?



"Mr. Abernathy doesn't let us have one."

• Jeff Buchko, '97

"Yes, because you can get homework done before you get home."

• Mark Jones, '95



"Yes, because it gives you a chance to get homework done because you might have sports that night."

• Debbie Kings, '96

"Yes, because you can study for other questions."

• Beth Minninger, '94



Geruska Photo

**USING HIS TIME WISELY,** a student works on a project in the media center. Many teachers make assignments which require research.

**WAITING WHILE THE** rest of the class goes over a test, an absentee gets a jump on the reading assignment he missed the day before.

**Q** If you only had to write one more report in your lifetime, what would it be on?



"Morals."

• Staci Skura, '94

"What I've learned at MHS."

• Matt Habrych, '96



"How everyone should get along."

• Jenny Springman, '97

"Problems with the general outlook of Americans as a society."

• Terry Bryant, '94



**STUDENTS TYPE AWAY IN** one of the five English writing labs. All but two of the 22 computer labs are networked so that students can pass through to other areas to finish assignments.

**KELLY BECKETT, '94, WAITS** for the copy of her advanced composition paper to print out. Linda Fry, Michelle King and Bruce Woods each taught advanced composition.



# Research & Writing

What brings stress, stress, and more stress to many MHS students? Reports, of course! There are many extended research papers that are assigned to students throughout the semester. Two of the "favorites" are the stock reports and the advanced composition term papers.

Each of these carry through a nine week period. Many students tend to ignore the project until the last minute. Michelle King, English teacher, does not recommend this. "KEEP UP!" she emphasized. "If you do all of the steps as they are assigned, things are much easier."

The English Department is very strict on plagiarism. There is, however, a sensible reason for this. "Plagiarism is theft", says King. "It is the theft of someone else's words and ideas.

If a student turns in stolen property, they deserve a zero."

Jim Edgcomb, history teacher, assigns a stock market project. This is structured a little differently than the English paper. The stock project is assigned at once. However, there are different steps to follow accordingly. This has advantages and disadvantages. "When it is assigned at one time," says Edgcomb, "students are able to work at their own pace. Some students' pace, however, is to start the project the day before it is due."

Many students are scared away from these classes. The ones that tough it out though, are always glad. Just remember King's words of wisdom: "A light high school schedule calls for a rough freshman year!" and vice - versa. • by Sara Nicholls



**JASON GALOOZIS, '94,** takes advantage of the library for his history of war class taught by Rob Moore. Students in this class put together multimedia presentations for a grade.

Bondra photo

# Fitness & Activities

No matter how much you may not like it, a year of physical education is required. It is designed to introduce students to old and new activities in which they can participate without being in a class situation.

"Physical Education helps students to develop and appreciate fitness skills to help them keep in shape and stay fit," says Rick Wimmer, P.E. teacher.

Physical education teaches the students the importance of physical awareness.

"Gym class helps develop cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, and muscular endurance. Plus the development of locomotive motor skills, it also gives every student the opportunity to be introduced to a lifetime of sports as well as cardiovascular sports," comments Lori Dust, P.E. teacher.

P.E. class helps students prepare for any other activities that they would like to participate in. "Students gain and improve cardiovascular muscular fitness and have fun. It also helps the students loosen up after taking a test so they could relax," says Mona Miller, P.E. teacher.

"I enjoy the activities, because Coach Dust teaches the best," says Anthony Baskin, '96.

Gym class has a specific curriculum that tests the students' physical abilities. "It's fun, because you can work out and have fun at the same time," says Baskin.

Throughout the year the students are tested on everything from running the mile to flexibility. Physical education teaches the students the importance of physical awareness. • **by Michelle Borman and Eileen Hill**



**TAKING ADVANTAGE OF** the tennis courts, P.E. students practice their serving. Ten tennis courts are available for use by MHS students.

**DURING THE SOFTBALL** portion of gym Miroslav Radiceski, '96, tosses the ball to the batter. P.E. students got the chance to use the new softball fields.







**Q:** What activities do you think gym classes should offer but don't?



"Hockey."

• Mike Adams, '95



"Wallyball."

• Michelle Braden, '94



"Gymnastics."

• Cindy Brown, '94



"Polo."

• Neal Fedak, '97



**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**  
teacher Lori Dust helps a student with his sit-ups. Besides teaching P.E., Dust is also the girls varsity basketball coach.

**Q:** If you had to pick between a mandatory shop or home ec. class, which would you choose?



"Shop, because it's more interesting. Home ec. is all goody goody stuff."

• Brandi Vucko, '95

"Shop class, because it is like a trade, and anyone can cook bad food."

• Jim Lewis, '94



"Home ec. I don't like getting dirty. I might break a nail, too."

• Becky Banzen, '96



"Home ec., because there's more of a future in it."

• Jeff Van Volkenburgh, '97



**KATHY RAIS, '95, ENJOYS** one of the cookies she baked in her gourmet cooking class. The class learns to bake several kinds of foods in the class.

**AUTO SHOP STUDENTS** John Haro and Jason Swigon, both '94, work hard in class. Auto shop is one of many industrial arts taught at MHS.



# Baking & Building

Is there anyone out there who doesn't know what their doing with their life after graduation? If this is the case, home economics classes and building trades may be the thing for these students. These classes give students the opportunity to gain skills for a career before they even receive a diploma. MHS offers a variety of home economics classes to the student body. These classes range from foods 1 to holiday foods, interpersonal relations to singles living, child development to parenting with many others as well.

Kelly Walters, '95, a former gourmet foods student said, "I've taken home economics classes in the past and gourmet foods sounded different compared to the other foods classes," Walters went on to say, "I would recommend this class because it was a lot of fun. It was interesting to see how everyone (in my class) cooked and made things."

The home economics department also offers Home Economics Related Occupation, better known as HERO. This class is open specifically to juniors and seniors and requires students to leave school after their third or fourth period class.

Lisa Stanchina, '94, was involved in this program and thought highly of

it. Stanchina feels this class has helped prepare her for the future "because this class helps you in your career choices and lets you have a good perspective on what you want to do in the future." She says, "I took this class to a job and experience in job training. I also get to go home from school early when I don't have to work."

Another class that provides job training is building trades. This class is also a half day course but the students go to school in the morning or afternoon and they go to classes. One unique characteristic about this course is that the students actually go out and build a house.

Are other skills used then?

Keith Lester, '95, says, "Mainly just math. I use math everyday. It really helps to know how to do most of it in your head." Lester continues, "This course is excellent for those who want to learn about the different trades. Experience and education is everything in the job field. This course gives you both."

High school is the place to get an edge on your future and if you don't want to go to college, home economics and building trades may be the key that unlocks the door to your future.

• by Susan Frenchick



**GRAPHIC ARTIST GREAT**  
Evan Crawford, '94, looks over a layout in advanced graphic arts. Graphic art classes are taught by Dave Teeter, and produce several MCSC publications.

Evans photo

Bondra photo

# Hootin' & Hollerin'

Students learn in many ways. Practicing with flashcards, reading the lessons over and over, and even studying in groups are some of the ways students learn material. But it isn't just the students who come up with different ways of learning. Teachers do too. Some of them are not exactly what some teachers would do.

Kristen Corsaro, social studies teacher, says that many of her teaching strategies are progressive and unconventional.

Corsaro says, "I have been known to stand on desks to make a point, and I allow my students to sit where they want as long as they remain active participants."

Some students may take this type of teaching for granted, but Corsaro sees things just a little differently.

"I think students learn best when they are constantly challenged. My way of challenging students is varied, from academics to peer acceptance. Students seem interested when they are actively engaged in the classroom. When

they are positively stimulated, they can't help but succeed," said Corsaro.

Mike Zolfo, speech and English teacher, also does some different things when it comes to learning. Jody Balcerak, '94, says, "Mr. Zolfo does meditation exercises to help us mentally prepare for our speech. These are relaxation exercises that help us overcome the nervousness that we experience during our speeches. One time we actually laid down on the floor and did a meditation exercise using our entire body. I enjoy doing them, and so does everybody else in my class."

Another teacher who does some outrageous things is Chris Joll, science teacher. For example, when Joll is explaining about snakes and their habits, he uses his snakes as a visual aid, and may even throw them around the room. He also is an excellent artist, and he uses sketches on the board to make his point. Eileen Hill, '95, said that "he does all kinds of really weird things."

• by Tina Yurechko

**FINDING OUT HOW IT** would feel to be pregnant, Samantha Sherwood, '95, and Bridgette Praschak, '96, try out the empathy bellies in Laura Stoner's Child Development class. Students seemed to enjoy seeing what they would look like if they were pregnant.



Farabaugh Photo





Geruska Photo

**Q** Do you learn more  
• from a teacher who  
• uses unconventional  
• methods?



"Yes, I pay more attention and find class more interesting."

• Eddie Sobh, '94

"Because it's more memorable when there's something funny to go along with."

• Cheryl Gonzalez, '95



"It helps me learn better."

• Chrissy Oh, '97

"Yes, Miss Given, for example, is very relaxed and informal."

• Corey West, '96



Fairbough Photo

**JEANETTE JONES, '95,** decorates an Easter cake to fill an order. The cake decorating class filled orders to practice their skills.

**PAULYN MICHAEL, '95,** and **Nikki Holm, '96,** check out the eclipse with the rest of their science class using their special safety glasses.



**Q:** Do you think  
• teachers are fair  
• when they call  
on students?



"No, although most teachers don't, some are biased towards who they like better."

• Dave Kamano, '96

"Most of my teachers are because they try to give an equal opportunity to answer the questions."

• Chenetta Blacknell, '95



"Yes, they don't pick on people. They do it to make sure everyone understands the material."

• Chris Baker, '94

"Most teachers call on students very fairly, just randomly, and it keeps students awake and alert."

• Julia Zolondz, '95




Farabaugh photo

**KEITH LESTER, '95, HANDS**  
in his homework in Barb Koby's English class. Calling on students is one way to see if they have done their homework.

**WITH A SMILE ON HER**  
face, Valerie Gutthar, '95, raises her hand in Mary Ann Galanis's history class. Galanis uses the "raise your hand" method of calling on students.



# Nine & Ten of clubs



John Smith is half-asleep in class and suddenly the math teacher says, "John Smith, please read number 21 and give us your answer." Smith awakens, fumbles in his book, and by the time he finds the problem, the teacher has already found someone else to do the problem. Can anyone here identify with John Smith? And how do teachers catch people like Smith off guard?

Robert Moore, social studies teacher, says that he calls on kids at random. "Sometimes I see some of these kids with their eyes drooping or wandering in other directions, and I have to keep them alert and on task. I also do it because I want to give everyone else a chance to show me they know what's going on. Another thing I am trying to get away from is just reading out of the textbook and adding a little more thinking questions. I want them to think more and apply what they learned."

Don Slys, science teacher, assigns each student two cards from a deck of playing cards, and pick randomly from the deck. This way the student is conscience when they

start to work on the material.

Andy Crane, '96', says, "Some teachers call on you with 3x5 note cards and choose those at random, some call on you when you are half-asleep. The random drawing of cards works because it keeps students on their toes so they have to know the material." Cathy Aimone, '94' says "In most of my classes, the students raise their hand when it comes to going over material. Any other time it is the lecturing part of the class."

Maryann Bertram, spanish teacher, says, "I call on students in one of two ways. One of them is just going up and down the rows, but I found that it really wasn't as effective as I thought it would be. I also call on them just by random picking. That way I know that people all get a chance to answer and also to keep them awake."

"Mr. Yelton has nicknames for everybody in his classes and calls on them that way. I had him my freshman year, and now I have him again as a senior, and he still calls on me by my nickname." says Jody Balcerak, '94.

• by Tina Yurechko



**DON SLYS, SCIENCE** teacher, helps one of his students during a titration lab. In class, Slys uses a deck of cards to call on students.

Garusko photo

Evans photo

# A Closer Look

## PNN Hits the Air



in-mag photo

PNN, MHS' first in-school television program, hit the air this past year on a weekly basis.

The staff worked hard realizing it was important to make PNN interesting and fun for the students and staff to watch each week.

"I feel that on Wednesday when the show broadcasts during homeroom, it's like you see a part of my true signature on it. I try not to let just anything go on because it's a reflection of the club and me," comments Terry Bryant, '94, PNN producer.

Being on the PNN staff is a good way for students to learn more about broadcasting, giving them experience in the field.

"It was a good idea. It gives students a new way of learning about the happenings at the school. It also gives students experience working with different equipment," says Andrea Wirtz, '94.

PNN covered a variety of school activities that interest the students and faculty.

"I think that it's good, because it gets you involved more in school activities," says Cheryl Santos, '94.

Sixth hour class on December 15 was optional for students. If students paid \$2.50 they were allowed to leave the final period of the day and hear guest speaker Dan Ruttienger talk about a variety of topics in his life. Ruttienger is the subject of the movie *Rudy*, which is about his struggle to play football for Notre Dame. The auditorium was full for Rudy. He did not limit his talks to sports, though. He mentioned that everyone should keep a positive outlook on life and to never give up when others are counting you down.

## RUDY

speaker comes to MHS



lowe photo

# Area schools flock to Yearbook Workshop



Jean Stanford's yearbook staff hosted a workshop in mid-September in the media center. Many neighboring schools, along with schools from different areas, attended the workshop. Students were able to get page and cover ideas from a large selection of both high school and college yearbooks. Yearbook advisers and their editors got the chance to meet with their company representative and an artist who thoroughly sketched cover ideas, making many book decisions easier. Throughout the day, guest speakers gathered students in the arena to discuss the different sections of a yearbook and gave advice on piecing together the perfect school annual.

Valerie Tanke, Walsworth Publishing Company's area representative, said, "From the reactions and comments I received, the workshop seemed successful. Students from other schools enjoyed seeing Merrillville's facilities. I think it went very well."

# FIELDHOUSE DEDICATED

ON DECEMBER 15, 1993 THE MASSIVE MHS FIELDHOUSE WAS DEDICATED IN HONOR BRYANT MATTHEWS. MATTHEWS, A MEMBER OF THE SCHOOL BOARD, HAS BEEN ACTIVE WITH MCSC FOR OVER FORTY YEARS, ONE OF THE MAIN REASONS HE WAS BESTOWED THE HONOR. MATTHEWS WAS PRESENTED WITH A PLAQUE AT THE CEREMONIES WHICH WILL HANG IN THE FIELDHOUSE. THE PLAQUE ACKNOWLEDGES HIS SERVICE AS AN ATHLETE, COACH, AND SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER IN THE MCSC.

AT THE CEREMONIES MATTHEWS WAS PRESENTED THE PLAQUE BY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER L.J. CRIST AND CONGRATULATED BY ATHLETIC DIRECTOR JANIS QUALIZZA. (photos courtesy of Kirk John Mitchell)





# NOT Just Another **Eclipse**

Of The Sun



IT WASN'T A SPECIAL MID-MAY FOOTBALL GAME DURING THE LUNCH PERIODS OR A PEP RALLY, BUT ON MAY 10 NEARLY THE ENTIRE STUDENT BODY AT MHS VENTURED OUTSIDE TO WITNESS THE FIRST ANNULAR ECLIPSE VISIBLE IN INDIANA SINCE THE 1960'S. THE ACTUAL ECLIPSE LASTED LESS THAN FIVE MINUTES, BUT EVERYONE THAT WITNESSED THE EVENT LEFT WITH A FEELING OF BEING PART OF HISTORY.

SAFELY VIEW THE ECLIPSE, PROTECTIVE GLASSES WERE SOLD FOR FIFTY-CENTS. ALSO, TELESCOPES WERE SET UP IN THE STADIUM AREA TO HELP PEOPLE SEE THE ECLIPSE AND A LARGE VIDEO SCREEN OFFERED AN EXPANDED VIEW OF THE EVENT WHICH WON'T OCCUR AGAIN IN OUR LIFETIME.

THE TRIP WAS "SPONSORED" BY THE SCIENCE CLASSES, BUT SEVERAL OTHER CLASSES ALSO ATTENDED.



## Choir in the Magic Kingdom



Roger Emig, choir director, claimed they would have no fun on an episode of PNN, but when MHS choir students went to perform at Disney World in Orlando, Florida, during Spring Break, the kids somehow did.

During the trip choir students visited the entire Magic Kingdom, as well as several other locations, including Cocoa Beach, Kennedy Space Center, and Ron Jon's Surf Shop.

The main reason for the trek was to perform. Choir members delighted Epcott Center visitors with their vocal stylings at the American Grandstand, singing such songs as their medley, "Rock the Jukebox."





# 1993 ..... 1994 YEAR IN REVIEW



Firefighters help a woman to safety during the Thousand Oaks fire. Twenty-five fires, fanned by the Santa Ana winds, swept over 200,000 acres in Southern California and destroyed more than 800 homes.

# Disasters

Firefighters watch helplessly as flames burn out of control in the Thousand Oaks area of Southern California. The fires, some of which were set by arsonists, lasted 16 days and did \$1 billion in damages. Eighty-four lives were lost due to the fires; 67 of those were firefighters trying to control the blaze.



Todd Bigelow/TIME



Bob Noble/GLOBE

After the L.A. earthquake, more than 14,000 people were forced to live in temporary shelters or camp out in parks. More than 20,000 people were left homeless, and many would later have to spend hours in line trying to get relief funds and supplies.



Les Stone/SYGMA

The sentiments expressed by this homeowner were unfortunately more the exception than the rule during the Midwest floods. More than 30,000 people were forced to evacuate their homes, and more than 40 died.

Sometimes mere seconds decided who lived and who died when an earthquake that measured 6.6 on the Richter scale hit Southern California in January. The quake killed 55 and caused damages that were estimated at \$30 billion. Some highway repairs could take a year to complete.



A ➤

Actor **Bill Bixby**, who starred in *My Favorite Martian* and *The Incredible Hulk*, died of prostate cancer at 59.

After a court battle that went as far as the U.S. Supreme Court, two-year-old **Baby Jessica** was returned to her biological parents. Her natural

mother gave the child up for adoption, and later sued for custody when she married Jessica's father. The suit touched off debates about parental and adoption rights.

Alabama, Georgia, North and South Carolina, and Tennessee were the states hardest hit by a storm system that ripped across the Southeast in late March.

More than **40 people were killed** as tornados, hail and heavy rains struck the region.



Andrea Renoult/GLOBE



Steve Liss/TIME

The flood in the Midwest drew people together to help save their homes and property from the rising waters. Five states were declared federal disaster areas, and damages were estimated at \$10 billion.

Charlotte, N.C., and Jacksonville, Fla., were awarded new National Football League franchises. The Carolina Panthers and the Jacksonville Jaguars brought the total number of **NFL teams to 30.**

CIA counterintelligence chief Aldrich Ames was arrested in March on espionage charges. Ames **sold U.S. secrets to the Russians** for nine years and could be responsible for betraying at least 10 operatives executed by the KGB.

Conway Twitty, whose 55 No. 1 hits were the most by a **country singer**, died in June of an abdominal aneurysm at the age of 59.

Damian Williams and Henry Watson were acquitted on charges of attempted murder for the beating of trucker **Reginald Denny** during the L.A. riots in 1992. Williams was sentenced to 10 years in jail for the assault, and Watson received four years probation.



Les Stone/SYGMA

A military aircraft accident in which **two planes collided** at Fort Bragg, N.C., in late March killed 23 paratroopers. The two planes struck each other on their approach to Pope Air Force base.

Barbra Streisand, who had not given a paid concert in 22 years, **sold out Las Vegas** shows on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. Ticket prices ranged from \$50 - \$1000.

*Beverly Hills 90210* star Shannen Doherty married Ashley Hamilton in September. Doherty, whose character on *90210* was jailed for breaking into an animal research lab, **left the show amid rumors** that she had been fired.

Seven astronauts went into space to repair the Hubble Space Telescope in December. A flaw in the main mirror of the telescope was keeping it from transmitting clear pictures. The repair, which was seen as a make-or-break mission for NASA, was a success.

Disney was forced to cut scenes from its movie, *The Program*, when teenagers in Pennsylvania **laid on the center line of a road** in imitation of the film. One died after being struck by a pickup truck.

Dodger fans mourned the loss of two past greats this year. Pitcher **Don Drysdale**, whose streak of 58 consecutive scoreless innings stood for two decades, died at 56 of a heart attack. **Roy Campanella**, the first African-American catcher in the major leagues, also died of a heart attack at age 71.

Don Shula, head coach of the Miami Dolphins, **broke the record for most wins** by an NFL coach, ending 1993 with 327. Shula's season ended on a low note; the Dolphins lost five straight games and failed to make the playoffs.

Erik and Lyle Menendez were put on trial in Los Angeles for **killing their parents** in 1989. The brothers alleged that the killings were in self-defense following years of sexual and psychological abuse by their



NASA/SIPA



Cynthia Johnson/TIME

PLO leader Yasir Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin met in Washington, D.C., in September to sign an interim peace agreement. The agreement, which was to begin setting terms for Palestine self-rule in Jericho and the Gaza Strip, was lauded as the prelude to peace in the Middle East, but both sides had to deal with dissent in their parties.

In a four-day visit to Denver that culminated in World Youth Day, Pope John Paul II met with President Bill Clinton and addressed 190,000 youths from around the world. The Pope's Sunday Mass drew nearly 400,000.

parents, and separate juries declared mistrials in both the brothers' cases.

Ernesto Zedillo was selected as the presidential candidate for Mexico's governing party after the original candidate, **Luis Donaldo Colosio, was gunned down** in Tijuana, Mexico.

Fears about safety, particularly from Germans, led to increases in security at Florida airports and rental car agencies after two foreign **tourists were murdered** within one week in September.



John Kuntz/SIPA



UPI/SIPA

Fred Gwynne, the actor who was best known for his portrayal of the lovable **Herman** in the popular television program, *The Munsters*, died in 1993 of cancer. He was 66.



The passenger train, Sunset Limited, plunged off a bridge into an alligator-infested bayou in Alabama. The crashed killed 47 people, the worst in Amtrak's history. A barge had struck the trestle, weakening its supports.

# Headlines



Greg English/SYGMA

Originally a humanitarian mission, the United States' involvement in Somalia increasingly became more combative. In capturing three Somali aides, 17 U.S. soldiers were killed, 77 were injured and one, helicopter pilot Michael Durant, was captured and later released. President Bill Clinton kept his promise that all American troops were to be removed by March 31.



PHOTOREPORTERS

South African President F. W. deKlerk and Nelson Mandela met in October to accept a Nobel Peace Prize given for their work to end apartheid. The South African Parliament voted to allow blacks to participate in government for the first time. In November, an interim constitution was signed granting equal rights to blacks and whites for the first time in 300 years.

Grammy awards for Album of the Year, Record of the Year and Female Pop Vocalist went to **Whitney Houston** for her work on the soundtrack of the film, *The Bodyguard*. Song of the Year honors went to *A Whole New World* from the film, *Aladdin*.

Host country Norway won the most Olympic medals with 10 gold, 11 silver and five bronze, and the U.S. captured six gold, five silver and two bronze medals at the 1994 **Winter Olympics** in Lillehammer.

Houston Oilers tackle David Williams was **docked a week's pay** when he failed to make a game in Boston against the New England Patriots. He stayed behind in Houston to be with his wife, who had just given birth to the couple's son.



# Olympics

Short-track speed skater Cathy Turner won a gold medal in the 500 meter race. Her victory was marred by a protest lodged by Zhang Yanmei, the Chinese silver medalist, who refused to take the podium with Turner after she alleged that Turner knocked her off balance during the race. Judges later disqualified Turner from the 1000 meter race for cutting off another skater.



William R. Sollaz/DUOMO



PHOTOREPORTERS

Tommy Moe took home a gold medal in the men's downhill, and a silver medal in the men's super-G. The Alaskan resident became the first American male to win a medal in Alpine events since 1984.



Al Telemans/DUOMO

American speed skater Bonnie Blair won her fourth and fifth gold medals at the Winter Olympics. Those medals, for the 500 meter and 1000 meter races, gave her the most total medals won by a U.S. woman Olympian.

After seven failures, speed skater Dan Jansen finally won an Olympic gold medal. Jansen, who holds several world records, set a new mark for the 1000 meter race in his last try for the Olympic gold.

In hopes of reducing the number of **guns on the street**, cities across the country followed New York's lead and participated in swapping programs: people could bring in their guns, no questions asked, and in return receive items such as toys, gift certificates and concert tickets.

Jay, Dave, Conan, Arsenio, and Chevy squared off in the **late-night talk show wars**. The Fox network was the first to throw in the towel, cancelling *The Chevy Chase Show* after only six weeks of poor ratings.

Journalist and author Randy Shilts, whose book, *And the Band Played On*, chronicled the **early years of the AIDS epidemic**, died of AIDS-related complications in February. He was 42.





PHOTOREPORTERS



Doug Beghtel/SYGMA

Nancy Kerrigan won a silver medal in figure skating, finishing mere percentage points behind Oksana Baiul of the Ukraine. In January, Kerrigan was clubbed in the knee in what was later found to be a plot by Tonya Harding's ex-husband and a former bodyguard.

MTV moved its popular but controversial show, *Beavis and Butthead*, to a later time slot after an Ohio mother alleged that references on the show caused her five-year-old son to **light a fire that killed his younger sister.**

Nolan Ryan, considered by some to be the **hardest-throwing pitcher** in baseball, retired at the age of 46.

November saw the passage of **two highly-debated bills** by Congress: NAFTA, a trade treaty between Mexico, Canada and the U.S., and the Brady Bill, which puts a five-day waiting period on the purchase of handguns.

North Carolina barely edged Louisiana Tech to win the women's **NCAA basketball** championship, 60-59. A three-point shot by Charlotte Smith with less than a second remaining on the clock gave the Tar Heels the victory.



FOS

Kurt Cobain, **lead singer of Nirvana**, died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound. Cobain, reportedly missing for six days, was discovered in his Seattle home April 8.

Long Island residents were horrified when Colin Ferguson opened fire on a New York com-

muter train. **Six passengers were killed** and 19 were injured. Police believe the attack was racially motivated because letters expressing dislike for whites, Asians and some African-Americans were found in the gunman's possession.

Manassas, Va., was the scene of one of the most **closely-watched trials** this year. Lorena Bobbitt, charged with malicious wounding for severing her husband's penis, was found not guilty by reason of insanity. Her husband had earlier been found not guilty of marital sexual assault.

Charles Kuralt hosted his last broadcast of *CBS Sunday Morning* in April. Kuralt had been a mainstay at CBS for 37 years with his Sunday appearances and his series, *On the Road*, which took viewers through small town America.



Espinoza/CBS

On Aug. 13, authorities positively identified the remains of a **body found** in a South Carolina creek as those of the father of former NBA star Michael Jordan, James Jordan. The elder Jordan had been murdered by two men who stole his car at a rest stop.

Oregon U.S. Senator Bob Packwood, accused of **sexual harassment** by more than two dozen women, lost a battle with the Senate ethics committee in November when his colleagues voted that his personal diaries could be subpoenaed for the case against him. Packwood later lost an appeal of the subpoena.

Parachutist James Miller crashed the November heavyweight championship boxing match between **Evander Holyfield** and **Riddick Bowe**, and caused a 21-minute delay in the match when he became tangled in the ring ropes. After being pummeled by spectators, Miller was finally freed by security guards and taken out of the building on a stretcher. Holyfield won the match and regained his title.



GLOBE

*Schindler's List*, Steven Spielberg's gripping, three-hour drama about the Holocaust, won seven Oscars. Included among those were the Oscars for Best Picture, Best Director and Best Adapted Screenplay.

*Jurassic Park*, Steven Spielberg's movie about dinosaurs cloned from prehistoric DNA, beat out his own *E.T.* as the highest-grossing movie of all time. With over \$700 million in worldwide ticket sales, *Jurassic Park* also captured Oscars for visual effects, sound, and sound effects editing.

Political riots in Moscow culminated in a takeover of Russia's parliamentary building in October. Troops loyal to President **Boris Yeltsin** ejected hardline rebels from the building.

Queen Elizabeth granted an honorary knighthood to U.S. Army **General Colin Powell** Dec. 15. Powell resigned as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in August.



Mitch Jacobson/SIPA



SYGMA

Race car driver Davey Allison was killed when the helicopter he was flying **crashed in Alabama**. He was 32.

Rising tensions over **nuclear accountability** led to problems in North Korea early in 1994. The country would not

Actor and rapper Tupac Shakur was convicted of aggravated assault and battery and sentenced to 15 days in jail. His arrest and the actions of similar recording artists raised questions about the message of "gangsta rap."

# Spotlight



Randall Caughie/GLOBE

It was a tough year for Michael Jackson. Amid charges of sexual molestation surrounding a 14-year-old boy, Jackson cancelled the last part of his world tour and sought treatment for addiction to painkillers. The civil charges filed against Jackson by the boy's family were dropped following an out-of-court settlement, but the singer still faced criminal charges.



allow U.N. inspectors to view all their nuclear production facilities, causing a breakdown in relations between the U.S. and North Korea.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg became the second woman to serve as a **U.S. Supreme Court Justice** when she was confirmed Aug. 3. Ginsburg, who was seen as an acceptable nominee to both liberals and conservatives, won Senate approval by a margin of 96-3.

Serbs, Croats and Muslims continued to oppose each other in Bosnia. The U.N., backed by U.S. air power, **demanding a cease-fire** in the capital of Sarajevo which marked the beginning of several uneasy peaces in the war-torn country.



Michael Ginsburg/ABC

*NYPD Blue* stretched the limits of what was normally permitted on network television in terms of profanity and nudity. ABC ignored protests and the reluctance of advertisers and began broadcasting what was widely considered to be the best new show on television.



# Sports

For the second straight year, the Toronto Blue Jays won the World Series, beating the Philadelphia Phillies four games to two. The Blue Jays came from behind to win Game Six on Joe Carter's three-run homer in the bottom of the ninth inning.

Former Los Angeles Lakers star Magic Johnson came back to coach his old team at the end of the 1994 season. Johnson, who won his first two games as head coach, said that he only agreed to coach the rest of the season as a favor to team owner Jerry Buss. Rumors had Johnson returning as coach only if he was allowed to purchase part of the team.



Rick Rickman/DUOMO



Rick Rickman/DUOMO

Wayne Gretzky became the NHL's all-time leading scorer when he broke Gordie Howe's career mark of 801 goals. Gretzky, who holds 62 NHL records, accomplished in 15 seasons what it took Howe 26 seasons to do.



Ben VanHook/DUOMO

Former NBA great Michael Jordan's bid for baseball stardom with the Chicago White Sox fell short. He was sent to the AA-class farm team in Birmingham, Ala.

The defending champion Dallas Cowboys defeated the Buffalo Bills in the Super Bowl, 30-13, handing Buffalo its fourth straight Super Bowl loss. In March, Dallas head coach Jimmy Johnson and owner Jerry Jones had a parting of the ways, and Johnson left the Cowboys.



Shannon Faulkner became the first female student allowed to attend **classes at the Citadel**. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that she could attend without cadet ranking while she awaited the resolution of her sexual discrimination suit against the all-male military college.

Sterling Martin won his first **NASCAR race** in February when he triumphed at the Daytona 500.

Tens of thousands perished when a devastating earthquake struck India. Most of the dead were impoverished families whose poorly constructed **houses collapsed** on them. Over 100,000 were left homeless.





J. Wochter/FOS



D. Pensinger/ALLSPORT



William R. Sallaz/DUOMO

Tom Hanks **won the Oscar for Best Actor** with his portrayal of an AIDS-stricken attorney in *Philadelphia*. Best Actress honors went to Holly Hunter for *The Piano*. Tommy Lee Jones won Best Supporting Actor for *The Fugitive*, and 11-year-old

Anna Paquin won Best Supporting Actress for *The Piano*.

Universal health care was the goal of President Bill Clinton's **proposed Health Security Act**, but opposition from lobbyists and members

of Congress had some wondering if it was possible to offer insurance to all Americans.

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Harry A. Blackmun, who wrote the **Roe vs. Wade** decision establishing

The Arkansas Razorbacks won their first national championship when they defeated the Duke Blue Devils in the men's NCAA basketball tournament. Arkansas, cheered on by First Fan Bill Clinton, won 76-72.

constitutional protection for abortion, announced his retirement in early April. Blackmun, 85, served on the court for 24 years.

Vietnam war protester Katherine Ann Power **turned herself in** after spending 23 years on the run. Power, in an effort to finance anti-war activities, was involved in a bank robbery that resulted in the death of a police officer.

Vince Foster, a deputy White House counsel and boyhood friend of President Bill Clinton, **committed suicide** in July. Foster later became the focus of investigations about his role in the Whitewater scandal.

While working on a film in Mexico, actor **John Candy died** in his sleep of a heart attack. He was 46.

Whitewater became the latest in a **string of controversies** that plagued President Bill Clinton and his wife, Hillary. A special grand jury was formed to decide whether there was any link between the Arkansas real estate venture and a failed savings and loan institution.

# Farewell

Vincent Price was considered the master of horror films, making movies that were terrifying without being tasteless. Price died in October at the age of 82.



Wheller/SIPA

Television's top lawyer, Perry Mason, never lost a case, but Raymond Burr, the actor who portrayed him, lost his battle with kidney cancer this year.



Boutefeu/SIPA

River Phoenix died on Halloween night after collapsing outside the L.A. nightclub, The Viper Room. The actor, who was 23, overdosed on cocaine and morphine. Phoenix was a promising young actor who first won acclaim when he was 15 for the movie, *Stand By Me*. He later received an Oscar nomination for his performance in *Running on Empty*.

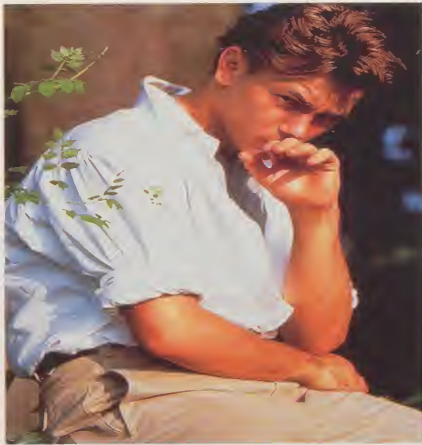
Musician Frank Zappa, who was known for blending rock, jazz, blues and classical music died Dec. 4 of prostate cancer. Zappa, who was 52, released over 60 albums in a career that spanned three decades.



Pachab/SIPA

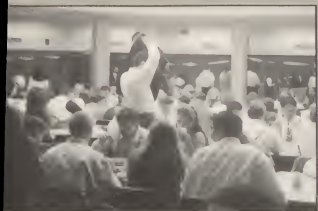
"X-rated" is how some describe his radio talk show, but **shock jock Howard Stern** made it onto the best-seller list with his tell-all book, *Private Parts*. The autobiography sold over a million copies.

Year-end college football polls put **Florida State at No. 1**, but the quirky season had some calling for a playoff system to decide the champion rather than traditional bowl games.



J. Hubs/SYGMA

Zealot Baruch Goldstein opened fire inside a Muslim mosque in Hebron, in the occupied West Bank of Israel. Dozens of people were killed, and **Goldstein himself was beaten to death.**



## SENIORS

### Close Year With Traditional Breakfast

Members of the Class of 1994 shared one of their final moments together May 20 during the annual senior breakfast. The highlight of the breakfast was the senior drive around which followed the meal. Also, during the breakfast winners of the senior awards were announced by senior counselor Drew Furuness. The awards included most likely to succeed, most popular and others.

After the breakfast seniors were free to leave, many getting ready for prom the next day. Others went to the beach, out for lunch, or shopping. Senior breakfast was the final chance for the class to come together prior to graduation. It was an enjoyable morning inspite of a certain amount of unhappiness because the underclassmen got out at 11 a.m. because of a Teacher's In-Service day.

# Bridging the GAPP

For three weeks in March and April 16 students and one teacher from Germany came to the United States as part of the GAPP (German-American Partnership Program). The German visitors stayed with host families and attended MHS.

It wasn't all school for the Germans, however. Their visit to the U.S. included trips to Chicago and Indianapolis, as well as several other local attractions.

This June the students who hosted the German students will travel to Bonn, Germany and attend their German school.

## MIRROR WINS

Unhappy with a B+ rating from the Indiana High School Press Association, members of the MHS newspaper, the *Mirror*, learned from their errors and worked hard to perfect their paper. Determination and extra time in front of the Macintoshes led to the paper winning the *Times* High School Paper of the Year Award, sponsored by the *Times* newspaper.

The staff was honored by having their photo in the *Times* announcement of the award winners. They also won \$100 and a plaque which will be awarded at the *Times*' High School Journalism Workshop in November.



The issue which won the honor was the May 10 edition which featured articles on the spring play, local annexation debates, and the softball team.

Rounding out the top papers were the *Munster Crier* in second place followed by Crown Point's *Inklings* in third. Valparaiso received honorable mention.



# NOT QUITE THE EMMYS

Recognizing excellence in their inaugural year the WMHS Club held the first annual PNN Awards May 13 to showcase the best work of the members during the past year for the weekly PNN program.

The awards were held in the arena and hosted by sponsor Steve DeVillez.



Trophies were awarded to the following students: Jason Galoozis and Tom Gayda for best humourus feature, Judy Adams for best anchor, David Evans, Cathy Navarro, and Dina Weis for best serious news feature, Brian Snelson for best commercial, Meg Liebenthal, Rachel Torres, and Andrea Wirtz for best news feature, Terry Bryant was named PNN staff member of the year, and Marc Holm was given the sponsor's award.

## *the* MHS *experience*

Throughout the school year, students from neighboring schools got the chance to spend a day at MHS through the new Interaction Committee set up by Student Government here. About once a month students from schools such as Valparaiso High School, Calumet High School, and Hanover Central High School ventured to MHS.

Visitors were hosted by an MHS student. They went around with that student to their classes and lunch. Visiting students also got a tour of the school grounds and a chance to meet with faculty and students.

The Interaction Committee also allowed MHS students to visit the other schools such as Calumet High School. Although the visit to Calumet High School was cut short because of a severe snow storm which caused students at Calumet to be sent home early that day, visiting students found some things are much the same no matter what high school students attend. At the same time, the visiting students found out just how fortunate MHS students truly are.







## BAND PARADES AT DERBY

Not to be out done by the choir performing at Disney World, members of the band, pom poms, and color guard ventured to the sight of the Kentucky Derby to march in the annual Pegasus Parade the day before the running of the derby.

The Pegasus Parade included just 22 bands from the United States. The parade was broadcast live in the Kentucky area and on a delay basis elsewhere on The Nashville Network.

105 MHS band, pom, and guard members made the trip missing a week of school in the process. The groups not only performed at the Pegasus Parade, but several other Kentucky Derby festivities.

# One Last Farewell

AS THE SCHOOL YEAR DREW TO A CLOSE SO DID SEVERAL FACULTY MEMBERS CAREERS AT MHS. SHERMAN LEWIS, HEAD GUIDANCE CONSELOR, CLIFF FACKLER, MATH TEACHER, AND KRISTEN CORSARO, SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER, ALL SAW THEIR FINAL DAYS AT MHS.

LEWIS AND FACKLER, WITH AROUND 50 YEARS SERVICE TO MHS BETWEEN THEM, RETIRED AFTER LONG AND SUCCESSFUL CAREERS. LEWIS ESTABLISHED THE WELL-KNOWN DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS PROGRAM HERE. HE LOOKS FORWARD TO TRAVELING AND SPENDING TIME WITH HIS WIFE, FORMER MHS ART TEACHER, DR. ELEANOR LEWIS.

CORSARO, WHO MARRIED IN JULY, RESIGNED SO SHE COULD MOVE OUT OF STATE TO LIVE WITH HER HUSBAND. CORSARO HAD TWO YEARS EXPERIENCE AT MHS, INCLUDING SERVING AS COLOR GUARD COACH.

AS THESE FACULTY MEMBERS MOVE ON THEY WILL ALWAYS BE REMEMBERED FOR THEIR GUIDANCE AND HELP AT MHS.



Kristen Corsaro



Clifford Fackler



Sherman Lewis

# MCATF Holds Multi-Cultural Fair

The Multi-Cultural Awareness Task Force, the group responsible for a number of activities aimed at broadening the students' and community's knowledge of various cultures, sponsored a Multi-Cultural Fair throughout MHS on April 22.

The fair consisted of performances by Merrillville Community Schools students, a student cultural art exhibit, as well as an arts and crafts show with displays by Merrillville community members

and others that had a heritage in one particular culture or ethnic group.

The performances, which were held in Reinhart Auditorium, varied from traditional African songs sung by students from Miller Elementary School, to Croation and other European folk dances by a group from Harrison Middle School.

The art exhibit was a collection of works from elementary to high school students. It included both

paintings and sculpture representative of heritage of almost every culture thinkable. For example, there was a recreation of a Native American Indian head-dress and pottery.

The Multi Cultural Awareness Task Force has been a well appreciated addition to the Merrillville school system, and will go on doing an excellent job of culturally educating the students and community.





Bandra Photo

**DAVE VODE,**  
'94, works hard  
on the senior  
class float prior  
to the football  
homecoming  
parade.

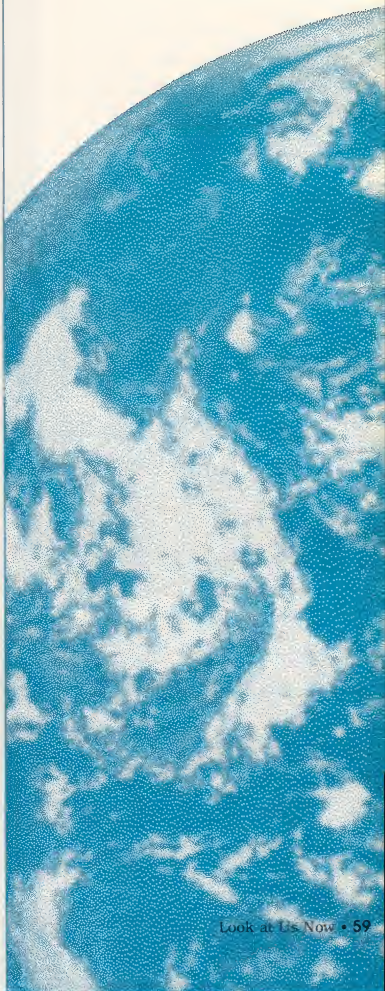
**JODY**  
Balcerak '94,  
rehearses prior  
to the choir's  
Christmas  
program. The  
program was  
titled "One  
Magic Christ-  
mas."

Not having anything to do after school doesn't work at MHS. Nearly everyday multiple clubs held meetings discussing anything from the environment to winning chess techniques. While most clubs kept a core base, several organizations exploded with large memberships. Many clubs that were only semi-active in past years along with all the others were involved like never before, and said, **"LOOK AT US NOW."**





Evans Photo



**ROGER EMIG, CHOIR**  
director, sings his heart  
out to the song "Always"  
at a hotel in Orlando,  
Florida. The choir spent  
spring break in Florida  
and performed at Walt  
Disney World.

**WITH THEIR FINGERS**  
waving number one  
after winning the bid to  
host the 1995 IASC state  
convention here at  
MHS. Student Govern-  
ment members pre-  
pare to head for home.



Farabaugh photo



Farabaugh photo



**COE/BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS OF AMERICA** - Row 1: Stacy Peek, Allison Klaubo, Amber Clark. Row 2: April Mullins, Nikki Moravic, Stacy Little, Doreen Bank.



**FUTURE EDUCATORS OF AMERICA** - Row 1: John Foster, Cathy Almone, Missy Dobis, Wendy Adams, Cindy Brown, Fernanda Romero. Row 2: Maryann Foster, Christina Moffitt, Marie-Claire Foster, Agnes Manchon, Sarah Parrish, Nancy Packovski. Row 3: Benita Cookston, Tom Gayda, Brien Delich, Joe Foster, Ombeline Munier, Beth Minninger.

# Learning Abroad



Farabaugh photo

**HUCK FINN, TOM** Sawyer, Tom, Valerie, Jean, and Pat. While on their trip to the yearbook plant, editor Tom Gayda, '94, Walsworth representative Valerie Tanke, publications adviser Jean Stanford, and staff member Patrick Farabaugh, '95, stop to rest and pose in Hannibal, Missouri.

**BAND AND POM PON** members take a break to relax on their way to Kentucky. This year's band, along with the flags and pom poms marched in the Pegasus Parade.



What could be better than missing a day of school and actually learning something in the process? Not too much! At least that is what most students and faculty feel about the few but appreciated field trips here at MHS.

The FEA sponsors the annual teaching trip. "I loved going on the FEA field trip," said Nancy Packovski, '95.

FEA took a day in March to go and teach middle and elementary school kids. This gave members a chance to see if teaching is in their career goals.

"It was a real learning experience and it will help me in the future when I am teaching my own students," said Packovski.

The Quest club and classes also went on several meaningful trips.

"Quest Club works with our MHS special education students. We help them do Christmas shopping and attend the Bears (special education team) basketball games," commented Jerry Kasarda, sponsor, "we also go cross-country skiing and to ballets. We do these things for fun and to learn and practice helping skills."

Another group that involved itself with field trips was the drama club. They went and saw theatrical productions such as "Joseph and the Amazing Colored Dream Coat" and smaller productions at local theatres.

Other clubs that went on trips throughout the year included the choir performing at Epcott Center in Disney World during spring vacation, and the publication staffs attending the annual Journalism Day at Ball State on April 15.

Whether it was a trip to a college, retirement home, or a major theatre production, field trips are definitely appreciated and enjoyable for many. It was a rare chance for students, faculty, and sponsors to get out of the hum-drum of a typical day, and have fun and actually learn in the process.

• by Kimberly

Anderson



**FHA** - Row 1: Pat Farabaugh, Carl Sims. Row 2: Roshanta Parker, Kristi Settlemires, Melissa Glorioso, Erin Crawford, Jenny Rachford. Row 3: Bernadette Vargas, Kathy Rals, Amy DeNardo, Amy Picard, Cindy Frost, Erin Crawford.



**MORNING ANNOUNCEMENT READERS** - Row 1: Irene Halkias, Julia Zolondz. Row 2: Rachel Torres, Bob Daumer, Debbie Klippel. Row 3: Jason Galoozis, Justin Ramage. Not Pictured: Tony Bartolomeo.



# Academic Clashes

Quick!!! What is the meaning of Einstein's theory of relativity? What is the capitol of Ethiopia? How do you spell disestablishmentarianism? Do you know what it means? Are you stumped? Maybe you should talk to some of the members of MHS's academic teams. Decathalon, Spell Bowl, Super Bowl, and Quiz Bowl are the categories. No, these are not football games that are played around New Year's. They are serious academic competitions that take place between September and April.

Spell Bowl comes first, and requires the mastery of the correct spelling of about 3,000 words. In order to accomplish this, sponsor Evelyn Steiner holds practice sessions 2-3 times a week, sometimes before school. They review especially tricky words like the hyphenated ones and the capitalized ones to prepare for the meets. This competition is no ordinary spelling bee. Instead of reciting the words out loud, the contestants from all schools go onto a stage one at a time to write eight words in front of their judge. The school in each division with the highest compiled score has a better chance for going on to state after the rest of the statewide scores are compiled.

Speech also puts in long hours of practice to perfect their oratory skills. The team traveled throughout the state and even ventured to Illinois for contests. To cap off their season the speech team members held their first ever "Speech Follies," in the auditorium at the end of May.

• by David W. Evans



**ACADEMIC DECATHLON** - Row 1: Kristen Sommers, Monica Shaffer.  
Row 2: Shan-Hwei Lee, Jennifer Shaffer, Joanne Samuel, Gil-Hwei Lee, Dee Edgcomb.



**QUIZ BOWL** - Row 1: Shan-Hwei Lee, Joanne Samuel, Kirsten Olson. Row 2: Gil-Hwei Lee.





**IRENE HALKIAS, '95,** and Wil Vivo, Cathy Navarro, and Abby Igarta, all '94, practice for the first ever "Speech Follies." The Speech team decided that they needed to show the community and even their parents what they spend all those extra hours doing.

#### THE SAYING GOES

"Practice makes perfect." Abby Igarta, '94, practices with Speech team coach Mike Zolfo. The team spent many out-of-school hours perfecting their pieces for competition.



Torres Photo

Elliott Photo



**SPELL BOWL** - Row 1: Bob Daumer, Tina Yurechko, Erin Thompson. Row 2: Nick Gonzalez, Gil-Hwei Lee, Shan-Hwei Lee, Jason Adler.



**SUPER BOWL** - Row 1: Gil-Hwei Lee, Jennifer Shaffer, Michelle Perez, Evelyn Steiner. Row 2: Monica Shaffer, Scott Lee, Shan-Hwei Lee, John Miller, Becky Berdine. Row 3: Brian Mola, Joe Moore, Nick Gonzalez, Mike Gearhart.

**RYAN SEIBERLING, '94,**  
and Michelle Verbik,  
'95, practice for "Don't  
Drink the Water." The  
offbeat Woody Allen  
comedy about a family  
of suspected spies was  
the fall play directed by  
Mark Owen.



Bondia Photo

**"SHALL WE DANCE?"**

The cast waltzes away  
during the ballroom  
scene in "Cinderella."  
Once again the put on  
a musical in the spring.

This year is was the  
Rogers and Hammerstein  
version of the ever  
popular fairy tale.



Rowe Photo



**ART CLUB** - Row 1: Andrea Wirtz. Row 2: Wanda Rice, Phil Langbehn, Jon Lambert, Kelly Meeks.



**DRAMA CLUB** - Row 1: Ryan Seiberling, Beth Hosfeld, Cathy Almone, Julia Zolondz, Melissa Breedn, Eric Olson. Row 2: Chris Camlas, Melinda Stelter, Lori Megyesi, Michelle Verbik, Melissa Stelter, Mark Owens. Row 3: David Greenburg, Eric Rulsard, Brian Mola, Mike Menendez, Kevin Newton, Tony Walla.



**BEHIND THE SCENES,** Laurie Parpart does Prince Charming's (Mike Pratscher, '94) make-up for the Friday, April 29 performance.

# Dramatic Performances

"Don't Drink the Water" opened up the play season at MHS. The play, written by Woody Allen, was presented in the auditorium November 12 and 13. A family that is suspected of being spies is the plot of the play, that centers around Europe.

Besides doing well here, the cast and crew of the play, directed by Mark Owens, traveled to Logansport High School in Logansport, Indiana to compete in the Regional Theater Festival sponsored by the International Thespians Society.

"I think that going into competition is a great idea because if we place well, then the Drama Club and the class plays will receive a little more recognition," said cast member Michelle Verbik, '95.

On April 29 and 30 the auditorium was transferred from an ordinary stage to a magical setting for the most well-known and loved

fairy tale, "Cinderella." Of course the story is well known, the abused Cinderella, played by Jennifer Dainton, '95, falls in love with a dashing young prince, played by Mike Pratscher, '94. The two overcame many obstacles, two of whom were her evil stepsisters, played by Julia Zolondz, '95, and Cara Colon, '97.

Hours of practice go into any production, and Cinderella was no exception. Hour after hour of countless practicing, singing, laughing, and arguing went into every scene.

"I have to admit that I'm really glad all these practices are over with," said Pratscher.

"Cinderella" gave the cast members a chance not only to act, but live out a fairy tale.

Colon said, "This musical gave me a love for acting that I know I will keep for the rest of my life."

• **Kimberly Anderson**

Farabaugh Photo



**HERO** - Row 1: Nicole Brown, Michelle Ensign, Koni Selfert, Lisa Stanchina. Row 2: Kara Davis, Kathy Rodriguez, Dawn Schneider, Janice Mayer, Valerie Sparks. Row 3: Vanessa Virgo, Danielle Gunn, Latrice Washington, Stephanie Cole, Brian Osborne. Row 4: Jason Owen, Anastasia Prascach, John Drasich, Dave Danford. Row 5: Ryan Rongers, Chet Cochran.



**THESPIANS** - Row 1: Beth Hofeild, Julia Zolondz, Jenny Dainton, Melissa Breedan. Row 2: Chris Camisa, Melinda Stelter, Mechelle Verbik, Melissa Stelter, Laurie Megys, Eric Olson, Tony Walls. Row 3: Ryan Seiberling, Brian Mola, Mike Menendez, Kevin Newton, Eric Rulsard.

# Scholastically Sound

Besides both being honor societies, the National Honor Society and the Quill and Scroll International Journalism Honor Society have several things in common, including an end of the year banquet and honoring of their seniors.

"Roots and Wings," is a dinner that is organized by NHS to honor the top ten seniors academically. Each of the honorees then select one teacher that they feel has forwarded their education the most throughout their school years. This year's banquet was held at the Insbrook Country Club.

Quill and Scroll honored journalists at their banquet. Different awards were presented, including the "Ronale Dubowski Outstanding Journalist," "Outstanding Newspaper and Yearbook Staffer," as well as awards sponsored by the *Post-Tribune* and *the Times*.

It has been custom that NHS members wear gold tassels and stoles, but this year Quill and Scroll members began a new tradition. Members of the organization decided to wear a silver and purple honor cord to designate their membership in Quill and Scroll.

• by Patrick Farabaugh



JETS - Row 1: John Sell, Ann Gorman, Alan Slade. Row 2: Brian Moia, Tim Aliff, Mike Gearhart, Tony Walla.



NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY - JUNIORS - Row 1: Irene Halkias, Nancy Packovski, Cynthia Garcia, Angie Corea, Deldre Elizondo. Row 2: Shan-Hwei Lee, Lori Wojtowicz, Beth Hosfield, Kristen Sommers, Julia Zolondz, Jennifer Bewley. Row 3: Beverly Ambrosiak, Bridgette Zellers, Lisa Dimitroff, Jamie Bartochowski, Daniela Damjanoski, Melissa Breedan, Marianne Battistini. Row 4: Rick Lyons, Alex Galic, Mandy Oljenik, Rich Stazinski, Dawn Buchko, Carlos Frevert. Row 5: Sam Barnett, Laurie Modglin, Katie Pahl, Jason Surdzial, David Greenburg.





Farabaugh Photo

**THE TOP TEN SENIORS**  
in the Class of 1994  
were honored by  
National Honor Society  
at it's annual "Roots and  
Wings" dinner. Seniors  
shown were receiving  
their "wings."



Farabaugh Photo

**CO-NATIONAL HONOR**  
Society sponsor Mrs.  
Beverly Ambrosiak  
presents Mark Bane  
with his award as Mark's  
honored teacher  
Ms. Irene Spiro looks on.  
The top ten students  
each invite the teacher  
they think has taught  
them most to the  
annual event.



**NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY - SENIORS** - Row 1: Riste Gorsecki, Monica Braden, Steve Oh. Row 2: Sunny Durham, Wanda Olvera, Manjula Samuel, Allison Rimer, Ann Gorman, Renee Dunn, Becky Schreiber. Row 3: Marianne Battistini, Benita Cockston, Jennifer Shaffer, Gili-Hwei Lee, Kristina Riese, Sara Parrish, Angie Byrom, Patty Craig. Row 4: John Sell, Eric Olson, Jackie Harms, Christina Moffitt, Janne Transfiguracion, Krista Richardson, Beverly Ambrosiak. Row 5: Tony Walla, Max Ochoa, Tim Alliff, Brian Mola, Mike Gearhart, Mike Pratscher, Tony Vasallo, Greg Bachich.



**QUILL AND SCROLL** - Row 1: Sunnys Durham, Julia Zolonds, Cathy Navarro, Dina Weis, Tina Yurechko, Sara Nicholls. Row 2: Rachel Torres, Kim Anderson, Staci Skura, Amy Geruska, Jean Stanford, Susan Frenchik. Row 3: Tom Gayda, Terry Bryant, Marc Holm, David W. Evans. Row 4: Greg Bachich, Tony Bartolomeo, Pat Farabaugh. Not Pictured: Shannon Bondra, T.J. Lux, Wendy Adams, Judy Adams, Brian Snelson, Kristen Kirm, Julie Obeikovski, Jon Rowe.

# Spirit Raisers

It takes more than a pretty smile and good dance steps to be a pom-pom. It takes dedication, hour after hour of practicing, frustration and tears, laughter and smiles, and most importantly the motivation to get out there and prove to the school and yourself that the pom squad isn't a bunch of Avon Ladies carrying poms and shaking their rumps. At least not the Merrillville High School pom-pom squad.

The MHS pom-pom squad consists of 32 bright, hardworking, and extremely talented girls. This year, was a time when the squad would finally receive the recognition not only for their talent but for their hardwork and effort. The squad participated in January at the Lake Central's Pom-Pon and Dance Invite where they placed 4th out of 18 schools. Nancy Packovski, 95, stated, "In May, part of the squad traveled to Louisville, Kentucky, along with the Band and Color Guard, to perform in the Kentucky Derby. It's exciting and makes us feel good, knowing that we were good enough to perform in a Nation-wide event." But the poms couldn't just pick up and leave. Months and months of practicing and fundraising went into all their performances and destinations. "We sold

everything from suntan lotion to pecan clusters to raise money." Kelly Walters, 95, said with a groan. "But it was worth it because without the money we couldn't go to camp and other events, where we have earned various awards." The squad was also picked to perform in Purdue(West Lafayette) and Valparaiso University Band Days.

Before the squad can go onto the field or the court to perform, it is the job of the sponsor Marianne Oates and the two captains Michelle Mayers and Kristina Riese to make sure everything is under control and everyone does the routines almost flawlessly. "My job as being a captain is to help make up routines and pre-games," stated Michelle Mayers, 94, "and also try to keep the peace and order within the squad. Kristina and I also try to get everyone to try and get along like a family. We definitely look better and perform better when everyone is together and is getting along."

MHS definitely gets that impression from watching the pom squad enter the floor. With their faces smiling and ready to perform another spectacular routine. One that fits "A Different Look."

• by Kimberly Anderson

SUMMER DICKEN, '95, makes a look easy as she performs her halftime routine with a smile. Poms spent hours getting the dance steps perfected.



**ATHLETIC TRAINERS** - Row 1: Aubrey Kelley, Trelles Evans, Kim Simpson.  
Row 2: Jill Harms, Kelli Moore, Kati Foreman.



**GAMES CLUB** - Row 1: Jonathan Zakutanski, Luke Z., Brian Snelson. Row 2: Lytle Stoeing, Angilynn Smith, Scott Mytyk, Rob Wolf. Row 3: Ken Alderman, Steve Blatz, Joe Wotell.



Rowe Photo



Rowe Photo

**COLOR GUARD MEMBERS MARIE** Kaminsky and Pam Ruschak, both '96, demonstrate their expertise during a half-time show. The girls are wearing the new uniforms they received just in time to wear them for Homecoming.



Rowe Photo

**PERFORMING FOR THE CROWD,** Michelle Mayers, '94, checks to be sure she is in time with the group. Pom-pons performed at halftime during basketball season, as well as during football.



**COLOR GUARD** - Row 1: Nadia Vevegas. Row 2: Angela Demaree, Yvonne Escott, Jenny Price, Kelly Johnson. Row 3: Kristin Corsaro, Pam Ruschak, Danyelle Gunn, Julia Zolonds, Michelle King. Row 4: Rachel Torres, Joanna Harbrecht, Marie Kaminsky, Judy Jennings.



**POM-PONS** - Row 1: Beth Minninger, Stephanie Pagel, Sara Nicholls, Michelle Mayers, Kristina Riese. Row 2: Erin Lain, Jennifer Bewley, Nancy Packowski, Wanda Olvera, Judy Adams, Danielle Ramirez, Summer Dicken. Row 3: Michelle Braden, Beth Jusko, Elizabeth Black, Kristy Trock, Jalme Bartochowski, Christina Gargano. Row 4: Kelly Walters, Krissy Malast, Melissa Clark, Cathy Gallimore, Nicole Panlagus, Amanda Buda. Row 5: Annette Harness, Natalie Conner.

**CO-EDITORS-IN-CHIEF**  
Dina Weis and Cathy Navarro, both '94, check the front page color separations before taking the *Mirror* to press at the Herald.



Farabaugh Photo

**DOING THE**  
background work on a story meant asking the right questions. Sara Nicholls, '94, writes the questions she will use for her interview.

**PRODUCTION WEEK**  
found the Macintoshes busy as Staci Skura, '94, and Tina Todoroska, '95, work on last minute stories. The staff worked late most Wednesday nights to ensure that their press deadlines were met.



Elliott Photo



**LITERARY MAGAZINE** - Row 1: Judy Adams, Rachel Torres. Row 2: Jackie Crone, Michelle Jones, Andrea Wirtz. Row 3: Willy Origel, Tom Gayda, A'Rhonda Hickerson, Pat Farabaugh, Jon Lambert. Row 4: Kevin Mehay, Ryan Parlock. Not Pictured: Kim Anderson.



**NEWSPAPER STAFF** - Row 1: Sunnye Durham, Julia Zolonds, Cathy Navarro, Dina Weis, Darnieshia Henderson. Row 2: Staci Skura, Tina Todoroska, Olivia Dojcnovski, Amy Geruska, Jean Stanford. Row 3: Tom Gayda, Anthony Bridges, Terry Bryant, Chris Bard, Tony Bartolmeo. Row 4: Greg Bachich, Justin Ramage, Patrick Farabaugh. Not Pictured: Shannon Bondra, Erika Yambrisk.



# Off to Press

Has there ever been a doubt that the newspaper will not find it's way to homeroom? Did anyone ever wonder how the yearbook gets put together? Well the answer is simple ... it's the journalism staff. Actually there are two staffs. One for the *Mirror* and one for *Merrillvue*.

Cathy Navarro, '94, editor of the *Mirror* staff says, "Being on the newspaper staff has helped me get in touch with the Merrillville High School environment."

Rachel Torres, '94, member of the *Merrillvue* staff feels, "Being on the yearbook staff has helped me to know what it will feel like writing for a large audience since I want to go into communications in college."

There are many good points to being on a journalism staff. One is that you are working towards a goal and you receive more than just a grade, you get to see your finished product published. Also, you get to work with people and you are not by yourself. The atmo-

sphere is also a lot more relaxed than it is in a normal class room. You are given more independence than in other classes because you have to get things done by deadlines and there is little slack given on the due dates.

Chris Bard, '94, of the *Mirror* staff claims, "Deadlines don't bother me!"

While Navarro says, "When it's deadline time I get ulcers, pull my hair out of my head, and yell a lot. I guess you could say I'm a Jekyll and Hyde."

Things are slightly different on the *Merrillvue* staff. The deadlines are more widely spaced but more assignments go into the plant. Also, the staff has to live with the idea that the book only comes out once a year so errors are more lasting. With the newspaper if you make an error it tends to be forgotten when the next issue comes out. There was an emphasis on reducing errors this year.

• by Susan Frenchik

Farabaugh Photo



WMHS - Row 1: Candace Armour, Agnes Mochon, Fernanda Romero, Judy Adams, Irene Halkias, Abby Igarta. Row 2: Tony Walls, Ombeline Munier, Dina Wels, Rachel Torres, Amy Geruska, Andrea Wirtz. Row 3: Steve DeVille, Tom Gayda, Terry Bryant, Marc Holm, Anthony Bridges. Row 4: Roger Johnson, Jason Galoozis, Patrick Farabaugh, Bob Daumer, Brian Snelson.



YEARBOOK STAFF - Row 1: Susan Frenchik, Tina Yurechko, Michelle Borman. Row 2: Tom Gayda, Sara Nicholls, Angee Elliott, David W. Evans. Row 3: Kimberly Anderson, Jean Stanford, Eileen Hill. Row 4: Rachel Torres, Amy Geruska, Patrick Farabaugh. Not Pictured: Shannon Bondra, Jon Rowe.

# Clean & Sober

SADD is Students Against Drinking and Driving, an organization setup to make the students, faculty, and staff member of MHS aware of the dangers of drugs. "We encourage everyone not to use drugs, and to be aware of how dangerous they can be to you. SADD was developed for those students, faculty, and staff members if they had a problem they could get help," according to club sponsor Lynn Praschak.

Red Ribbon Week comes during October to help students to be aware that drugs are a problem, and no matter where you go drugs are around. If you're not taking drugs it is possible somebody you know is taking them and may need help.

Many students here at MHS appreciate the fact that there is an organization that they can go for help in their school. "Drug are a serious problem, and the only way to get help is to talk to someone,

anybody, as long as you don't keep it to yourself," said Bernetta Williams '95.

During Red Ribbon week SADD tries to make students aware of the dangers of drugs.

On the other hand, Quest helps students develop life-long coping skills for living a happy, satisfying productive life. Through numerous activities, such as discussion, reading, and reflection students learn how to communicate effectively, make decisions, solve problems, and understand themselves, peers and parents. Quest offers a three part program, including a course for teens, internship experience and parent seminars. Units focusing on self-concept, emotions, friends, family, parenting, careers, and personal philosophy are some of the many things that the Quest organization deals with.

• by Eileen Hill



**ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB** - Row 1: Kirsten Olson, Delphine Wedding. Row 2: Melissa Peterson, Andrea Wirtz, Stacy Shudick. Row 3: Jeff Yelton, Dana Schlinger, Shan-Swei Lee, Eric Stage. Row 4: Jon Lambert, Tony Vassallo, Kenny Lang.



**QUEST CLUB** - Row 1: Kurt Anderson, Erick Vertucci, Shelley Boedeker, Daniela Damjanowski. Row 2: Jerry Kasarda, Andy Belush, David Vode. Row 3: Jason Galoozis, Chris DeMure. Not Pictured: Mike Guernsey, Laurie Maness, Angie Byrom, Angela Mish, Tori Hughes, Brett Fedak, Jenni Randolph, Kim Gutierrez.



Farabaugh Photo



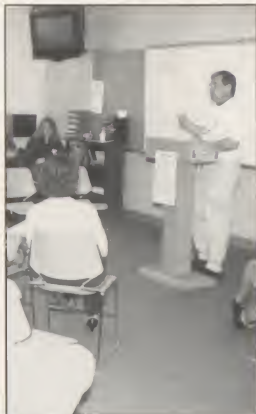
Farabaugh Photo

#### QUEST HAD A PARENTS

Day program which allowed participating parents a chance to understand better what the class was about.

#### PARENTS LISTEN TO

Quest teacher Jerry Kasarda as he explains that raising self-esteem and being drug free are just a part of what the class studies.



Farabaugh Photo

#### SPONSORING THE

dance following the Basketball Homecoming game proved a fun way to make money as the Pirates "Diced the Slicers."



**SADD** - Row 1: Jennifer Smith, Cathy Almone, Jenny Rachford, Lynn Praschak. Row 2: Brian Lehr, A'Rhonda Hickerson, Scott Mytek.



**SUNSHINE SOCIETY** - Row 1: Angela Wusik, Jamie Childress, Lisa Von Berg, Megan Krisko. Row 2: Andrea Rybolt, Stephanie Cichy, Melissa Peterson. Row 3: Jill Harms, Jenny Smith, Dana Schlenger, Kate Neskoski.

**CHRIS DEMURE, '96**, talks along with the "BLAST" video during student government's presentation of MHS as part of the bid for the state student government convention.

Student government was successful in their bid so MHS will host the convention.

**MISTY CARDENAS, '94**, and Judy Jennings, '95, take a bike to the bus as part of their annual Christmas Wish project co-sponsored with NHS.

Homerooms adopt a child and purchase gifts to make his or her Christmas brighter.



**CLASS OFFICERS** - Row 1: Chris DeMure, Diane, Jessica Vargas. Row 2: Victor Lopez, Joe Moore. Row 3: Jason Galoosiz.



**KEY CLUB** - Row 1: Renata Stefanoski, Joanne Samuel, Lisa Kanouse, Karen McKay. Row 2: Michelle Sulich, David Kordys, Susan Drobac, Becky Jenkins, Sarah Edwards, Kim Kintz, Laura Murtaugh. Row 3: Sarah Millisavljevich, Maggie Samson, A'Rhonda Hicherson, Jenny Frankhauser, Eric Gill, Kelly White. Row 4: Bob Martinez, Jason Knight, Kiwanis Adviser Harold Holmes.



TEACHING MULTI-Cultural awareness, Misty Cardenas, '94, teaches a session at the District 1 workshop held at MHS.

# Law Makers

It takes a large group to organize such events as both spirit weeks, dances, raffles, and just about any other event that goes on at MHS, but the Student Government was able to do all that, and more.

From orientation to the last day of school, the student government is always planning some event to keep the students at MHS involved. With meetings in the arena after school every other Wednesday the members proposed, debated, and even shot down some ideas. Meetings are typically run by the Government President Wil Vivo, '94, but all members are encouraged to suggest ideas and comment on others.

One of the Government's more popular events this year was the "Kiss the Pig" contest. Tom Herbert, assistant principal, received the most money in his can requiring him to kiss a pig during halftime of a home basketball game. This event was a big money maker for the members.

What had to be the thrill for Student Government members would have to be winning their bid to host the state convention for student councils in 1995. Members learned of their victory while attending a convention in Muncie, Indiana at Ball State University.

If it seems like the Student Government is sponsoring a different activity everyday it probably should. More likely than not, members are doing something.

• by Tom Gayda



**STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL** - Row 1: Cathy Almone, Abby Vivo, Irene Halkias, Gina Hampton, Vilfred Vivo. Row 2: Andrea Wirtz, Benita Cookston, Toulia Vasilopoulos, Melissa Skratsky, Ryan Selberling. Row 3: Marc Holm, Debbie Kings, Misty Cardenas, A'Rhonda Hickerson, Chris DeMure. Row 4: Rick Larson, David Vode, Eric Olson.



**STUDENT GOVERNMENT** Row 1: Pat Farabough, Jason Goloszin, Chris DeMure, Andy Belush, Eugene Vivo. Row 2: Benita Cookston, Jody Balcerak, Kim Anderson, Schilly Bedecker, Cynthia Garcia, Abby Vivo, Irene Halkias, Nancy Packowski. Row 3: Wil Vivo, Liz Simunic, Becky Schreiber, Melissa Peterson, Josie Arena, Cathy Almone, Lori Garbus, Pam Ruschak, Becky Paine, Chatty Navarro, Janette Ellison. Row 4: Dave Vode, Judy Jennings, Jackie Harms, Dina Wade, Melissa Skratsky, Kenny Price, Rebecca Zolodis, Angie Correa, Toulia Vasilopoulos, Danielle Damjanosky. Row 5: Dana Schlinger, Rachel Torres, April Purocil, Heather Loehse, Nicole Cole, Jenny Herbert, Monica Braden, Mandy Ojlenik, Misty Cardenas, A'Rhonda Hickerson, Marie Kaminsky, Eric Vertucci, Bob Daumer, Marc Holm, Chris Camisa, Jason Jesuit, John Sell, Mike Pratscher, Tony Vassallo, Jon Lambert, Andy Crane.

# Making Money

Polly wanna buy a cracker? Okay, now that will cost you \$1.50.

Fundraisers at MHS could range anywhere from a simple candy sale to students donating money to see a faculty member have to kiss a pig! Yes, it's true. Students today will do almost anything to raise money. Whether it be for a student scholarship or to buy the band new outfits, the need for money is always there.

Want a good way to get some extra cash? Sponsor a dance. Almost all the dances this year proved to be good for some extra money. Homecoming and Prom both turned out to be extremely profitable. Even though the Mommy-Daddy Date Night was scheduled so close the Prom, it turned out a fair crowd as well. "It was great that so many people showed up. After all, it sure seemed as if we had the odds stacked against us on this one."

commented Latrice Washington, '94.

Another fundraiser the brought in the bucks this year was the Student Government "Kiss a Pig" contest. In this, the MHS faculty volunteer to be put on what came to be known as the "Pig Court." By doing this, They put themselves up for bidding. Jugs were made for each contestant and the students and faculty both contributed over \$600 to see Tom Herbert, vice principal, have to pucker up and kiss little Two Lips, the pig. "It was a blast seeing Mr. Herbert have to kiss that little pig. He wasn't my personal choice of course, but it was still something worth seeing," commented foreign exchange student, Ombeline Munier, '94.

The band and choir also raised money this year to pay for their trips to Florida and Kentucky.

•by Patrick Farabaugh



**DEBATE** - Row 1: Josie Arena, Rachel Torres. Row 2: LaToya Francis, Nicole May, Kristina Strawhun. Row 3: Rick Larson.



**JAZZ BAND** - Row 1: Melissa Breeden, Leanne Forbes, Jodi Springman, Allison Rimer, Kara Gonzales. Row 2: Shawn Peschke, Brian Snelson, Paxton Williams, Joe Steeb, Tony Walla, Aaron Lewis. Row 3: Jim Bergstrom, Bob Verblk, Scott Lee, Justin Swartzentruber, Mike Menendez, Rob Wolf. Row 4: Ryan Selberling, Adam Welzian, Don Cole, Aaron Malerich.



Evans Photo

#### DEDICATION IS GIVING

up your lunch hour, Amy Picard, '95, and Wanda Olvera, '94, FHA members, take Valentine balloon orders at lunch in the Commons.

#### MS. CAROL VON

Behren, home economics teacher and club sponsor, helps club members set up the refreshments table for Mommy-Daddy Date Night.



Bosenbark Photo



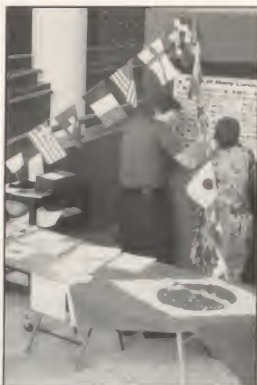
**SPEECH TEAM** - Row 1: Rachel Torres, Beth Hosfeld, Cathy Navarro, Abby Igarta, Irene Halkias. Row 2: Becky Jenkins, Lisa Taylor, Melissa Skratsky, Maegan Wojciechowski, Stacy Brown. Row 3: Paxton Williams, Amy DeNardo, Debbie Kings, Scott Mytyk, Ann DeNardo, Toulia Vasiliopoulos, Kathleen Wisniewski. Row 3: Kristen Strawhun, Dina Weis, Erica Ashworth, Wil Vivo, Ryan Selberling, Bob Daumer. Row 5: Mike Cardwell, Jason Reed, Ryan Brown, Eric Olson, Mike Pratscher.



**VOCALTEENS** - Row 1: Eugene Vivo, Wilfred Vivo, Cathy Navarro, Becky Schreiber, Rich Staszinski, Angela Mish, Kevin Newton, Marie Lengyl, Abby Vivo. Row 2: Jody Balcerak, Bryan Phillips, Julia Zolondz, Tim Sopko, Mandy Olejnek, Jon Schultz, Angela Byrom, Eric Culp, Tina Yurechko. Row 3: Benita Cookston, Andy Crane, Jennifer Dalton, Harry Simms, Christina Moffitt, Andy Belush, Michelle Verblak, Lawrence Murphy.

**ART CLUB MEMBER**  
Elizabeth Piazza, '95,  
paints faces with ethnic  
designs at the Multi-  
Cultural Fair held in the  
Field House, the Hall of  
Flags, and the Senior  
Citizen's Center.

**MULTI-CULTURAL**  
Awareness Task Force  
member Lyle Stoeltling  
sets up his booth in the  
Hall of Flags to take  
donations for the flags  
for which the group still  
needs a sponsor.  
Families, faculty mem-  
bers, administrations,  
and homerooms all  
donated money for the  
flags. Eventually a  
plaque will indicate the  
sponsors of each flag.



Farabaugh Photo



Farabaugh Photo



**FRENCH CLUB** - Row 1: Candace Armour, Melissa Skratsky, Toulia Vasilopoulos, Heather Stamate, Cathy Almone, Ternaanda Romaro, Ombeline Munier, Irene Spiro. Row 2: Telkesho Williams, Lisa Van Berg, Sara Litty, Vanesa Donecki, Maria Trajkov, Beth Hosfeld, Amy DeNardo. Row 3: Angie Corea, Debbie Kings, Stephanie Cichy, Lisa Dimitroff, Kristen Somers, Roniesha Rose. Row 4: Ronda Price, A'Rhonda Hickerson, Monica Shaffer, Rachel Price, Megan Kristko, Jill Harms.



**GERMAN CLUB** - Row 1: Ann Gorman, Mike Pratscher, Jenny Duplaga, Lecann Forbes. Row 2: Melissa Manojlovich, Angie Stapinski, April Pratscher, Gil-Hwel Lee, Corey McDermot. Row 3: Alan Slade, Kristen Strawhun, Donna Sorlig, Rick Brodner. Row 4: Jon Lambert, Tony Vasallo.



# Internationally Known

Hello! Hola! Bonjour! Guten Tag! The Multi-Cultural Awareness Task Force is becoming a driving element behind MHS activities this year. With help from the French, Spanish, and German Clubs, MCATF is promoting understanding and appreciation of many cultures.

This year, it's grown to the level that it helped sponsor corporation wide Multi-Cultural Fair. This fair took place on Saturday, April 23 in the fieldhouse and Hall of Flags, alive with music, food, dance, and crafts representing many cultures. The German, French and Spanish Clubs were in full force helping with concessions, while Student Government helped with refreshments and parking, and the art club orchestrated the multi-cultural face-painting for children.

An added dimension the Task

Force has gained this year is the involvement of the entire Merrillville School Corporation. The fair was able to house as many activities as it did because of the participation of the elementary and middle schools. The Hall of Flags itself was assembled with great help from the elementary schools. Students from all MCSC schools had individual song and dance performances to entertain the crowd.

This multi-cultural fair was not the first opportunity for the members of all three foreign language clubs to come together. Twice this year, for Christmas and Valentine's Day they sponsored parties, also known as fiestas, Mardi Gras, and partei. These parties were held in the cafeteria and featured music, food, and games from their nations.

•by Rachel Torres



Farabaugh Photo



**MULTI-CULTURAL AWARENESS TASK FORCE** - Row 1: Kirsten Olson, Mary Ann Bertram, Tina Yurechko, Julia Zolondz, Melissa Skratsky, Cathy Almone. Row 2: Irene Halkias, Misty Cardenas, A'Rhonda Hicherson, Debbie Kings, Ianne Transfiguracion. Row 3: Lyle Stoelting, Eric Olson, Brian Mola, Randy Stelter, Rachel Torres, Wil Vivo. Not Pictured: Lorrí Covaciu, Jean Stanford, Maryann Foster, Wanda Rice, Dr. Daniel C. Rapacz.



**SPANISH CLUB** - Row 1: Maryann Bertram, Kristen Santos, Cynthia Garcia, Kathy Reis, Bernadette Vargas. Row 2: Angela Wusik, Jamie Childress, Aarthi Tejuja, Lucinda Paz, Fernanda Romero. Row 3: Summer Dickinson, Raquel Garcia, Scott Mytyk, Donna Damjanoski, Ann DeNardo.

# Stylin' Singers

On Tuesday, March 29, choir students woke up to get ready for the big day ahead. It was time to prove that all the extra practices back home were well worth it.

The choir performed a medley called "Rock the Jukebox" in front of Mickey and friends at the American Grandstand stage in Epcot Center.

"Performing in front of about 300 some people was really exciting. When we first started there weren't that many people in the stands, but before we knew it, the stands pretty much filled up. People would even stop to watch us perform while other people were even standing in the aisles," commented Harry Sims, '94.

Choir director Roger Emig described the performance as marvelous. He added, "Everybody did their best and I couldn't believe how professionally the kids behaved. Their performance was totally first class all the way, and by

far the best performance they have done this entire year."

The trip was not all hard work. Choir members also had dinner at King Henry's Feast, spent time sunbathing at Wet and Wild, went to Disney World and Kennedy Space Center, and spent time shopping and at the beach.

Nearly a month later, 32 members of the Show Choir headed for the University of Eastern Kentucky. There they competed against 13 other show choirs from other states including Ohio and Tennessee. The MHS Show Choir placed fourth. Numbers they performed were "Sing Joy" and "We Go Together" from the movie *Grease*.

"I think 'We Go Together' is probably one of our better numbers. It seems to be able to show off a more playful side of the choir. Everyone seems to enjoy that song. I know I do," explained Abby Vivo, '95.

•by Olivia Dojcinovski and Patrick Farabaugh



**CONCERT CHOIR** - Row 1: Julia Zolondr, Carmen Ramirez, Christal Gutierrez, Lisa Taylor, Michelle Parker, Janelle Ellison, Michelle Verbiik, Jennifer Vega, Michelle Mayers. Row 2: Pamela Good, Tina Yurechko, Cathy Almone, Cathy Navarro, Becky Schreier, Matt Navarro, Jason Delunda, Wilfred Vivo, Mark Lengyi, Sidney Rivera, Abby Vivo, Melissa McCory, Jennifer Draper, Roger Emig. Row 3: Lucinda Paz, Jody Balcerak, Abby Richard, Jason Burdick, Lawrence Murphy, Matt Cooke, Rich Stazinski, Tom Sopko, Angela Mish, Angela Byrom, Embeline Munier, Amy Siford. Row 4: Correy McDermott, Jill Harmsa, Jennifer Delanton, Jon Schultz, Emmanuel McCann, Andy Belush, Eric Culp, Pherron Lewis, Leah Frink, Jacky Harms, Christina Moffitt, Harriet Kelly. Row 5: Benita Cookston, Misty Cardenas, Tom Schultz, Sam Barrett, Tom Leep, evin Newton, Andy Crane, Harry Simms, Patrick Farabaugh, Mandy Ojlenik, Mandy Snover, Katy Paul, Rhonda Price, Rachel Price.



**GIRL'S CHOIR** - Row 1: Maria Papadakis, Tanya Hill, Andrea Coates, Cara Colon, Katrina Triplett. Row 2: List Goley, Carrie Snow, Tomishia Borwn, Kendra Tolefree, Jessica Swims, Julianna Peppas. Row 3: Kelly Niezgoda, Amanda Kirk, Carla Schell, Angie Krumrie. Row 4: Roger Emig, Vanessa Doneski, Kellye Stephens, Dena Jefferson, Melissa Dennis, Moselle Richards. Row 5: Maria Trajkov, Jenny Vukin, Tanja Zaravski, Sarah Millsavjevich.



Farabaugh Photo

**GETTING THE STEPS**  
right, Girls Choir practices the choreography, as well as the vocals, for the Spring Concert.



Farabaugh Photo



Farabaugh Photo

**WORKING HARD, LENA**  
Giffilan, '96, concentrates on the correct phrasing as she practices for the Spring choir concert held in Reinhart Auditorium.

**THE LEGEND SAYS**  
whoever pulls Excalibur from the anvil will be the next King of England. Cathy Almone, '94, tries her hand at removing Excalibur during the choir's trip to Florida during Spring Break.



**MIXED CHORUS** - Row 1: Sarah Burt, Kelly LaBonte, Amy DeNardo, Lisa Kanouse. Row 2: Felicia Taylor, Beth Jusko, Angie Stapinski, Becky Jenkins, Aubrey Kelly, Samantha Sherwood. Row 3: Andrea Simpson, Kelly Thorne, Eugene Vivo, Tyrone Brown, Roshanta Parker, Melissa Glorioso. Row 4: Melissa Potts, Brian Phillips, Emmanuel Kazonis, Roshanta Parker, Jaime Santeramo. Row 5: Judy Jennins, Joe Moore, Marco Flores, Britton Hoffman, Becky Berdine.



**NINTH GRADE GIRL'S CHOIR** - Row 1: Holly Gentry, Elisabeth Black, Ashley Eates, Kira Davila, Kristen Kapanka. Row 2: Megan Dixon, Mandy Sopko, Barbara Hoaglund, Carly Morgan. Row 3: Emily Barnett, Nichole Shultz, Megan Reberg, Sarah Frink, Karianne Jelinek. Row 4: Jenny Trapane, Angie Miller, Jenny Pozniak, Mariah Mitchell.

# Masterful Musicians

The dissonant sound of scales being played individually by several people fills the air as band and orchestra members warm up. They're not doing stretches in the athletic meaning of the term, instead they're limbering fingers.

This was a successful year for instrumental music students. Band and orchestra both received superior rating at their respective Indiana State School Music Association contests.

This wasn't an ordinary contest for the symphonic band. They had been unable to practice together the last two days before the competition. Band director Mary Clay had not been at school since the night of the pre-contest concert because her husband was in the hospital.

Then as the orchestra headed off on their field trip to see the

Chicago Symphony, the band stepped off to Kentucky to play in the Pegasus Parade and Competition.

A total of 105 Marching and Jazz Band members, Pom-Pons, Color Guard members, and instrumentalists made the trip.

The parade, which included 22 marching bands from throughout the United States, was only part of the Kentucky Derby festivities.

The Jazz Band, "Jazz Impact," won the honor of being the sole entertainment at the float preview party that was held at the Commonwealth Convention Center in downtown Louisville.

The 21 member group was televised on local television in Kentucky and nationally on the Nashville Network.

•by Cathy Navarro and Julia Zolondz



**CONCERT BAND** - Row 1: Sharon Segeevich, Melissa Clark, Shannon James, Heather Luedtke. Row 2: Shawn Peske, Ryan Derico, Katl Shapkaroff, Paul Zolondz. Row 3: James Bergstrom, Steve Manning, Ray Montgomery, Chris Camisa, Bob Verbiik. Row 4: Nick Gonzalez, Mike Coughlin, Ryan Remenius, Andrew Bowden.



**CONCERT BAND** - Row 1: Nicole Hall, Twanna Allen, Rasheeda Maxwell, Berlinda Williams, Deanna Gonzalez. Row 2: Sonja Damjanoski, Stephanie Know, Amy Stobaugh, DeVon Parker, Yasmin Aponte, Rebekah Jusko, Shannon Scott. Row 3: DeShawn Williams, Krissy Long, Angle Lamb, Tamara Beatty, Kim Swiere, Mike Walker, Tiffany Januszewski. Row 4: Frank Halcars, Jennifer Lepley, Stephanie Valse, Rob Wolf.





**PLAYING THE SCHOOL**  
song, members of the  
Pep Band work with  
the cheerleaders to get  
the crowd into the  
basketball game.



Farabaugh Photo

**IN PIT ROW, GIL-HWEI**  
Lee, '94, plays her violin  
in the pit orchestra for  
"Cinderella." Many of  
the orchestra members  
played for the musical on  
their own time.



**ORCHESTRA** - Row 1: Liz Flores, Melissa Skratsky, Shan-Hwei Lee, Deanna Tracy, Dede Riddle, Row 2: Kirsten Olson, Toulia Vasilopoulos, Szot, Angelyn Smith, Deanna Price, Marianne Maj, Row 3: Jamie Komenda, Jamie Fantin, Debby Kings, Monica Shaffer, Gil-Hwei Lee, Row 4: Ben Jarvis, Steve McFarland, John Miller, Jason Rico, Chris Miller, Ben De Leon.

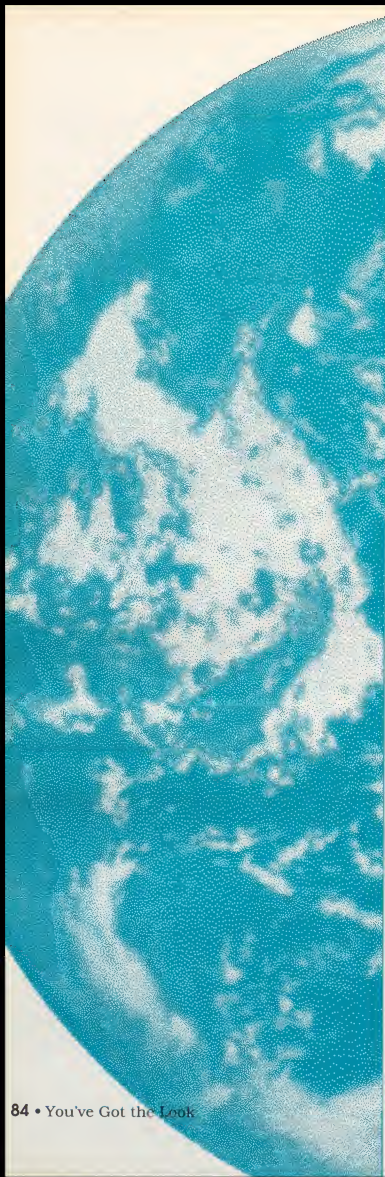
Rowe Photo



**SYMPHONIC BAND** - Row 1: Dave Maldonado, Sonja Mitchell, Kara Gonzalez, Yvonne Escott, Damon Derico, Row 2: Roger Johnson, Eric Randolph, Sean Buck, Paxton Williams, Joe Steeb, Carlos Frevert, Row 3: Pete Rodriguez, Kenny Lange, Dave Greenburg, Brian Snelson, Matt Cooke, Anthony Walla, Row 4: Anthony Reddix, Michael Hampton, Tommy Gasperson, Rickey McMillan, Tim Aliff, Kyle Doblecki, Row 5: Don Cole, Rob Flores, Mike Jonson, Aaron Malerich, Mike Menendez.



**SYMPHONIC BAND** - Row 1: Melissa Breeden, Carmen Bonilla, Cynthia Garcia, Bernadette Vargas, Dawn Buchko, Row 2: Sean Briggs, Allison Rimer, Jenny Price, Christal Williams, Lisa Beres, Becky Paine, Rhonda Jackson, Row 3: Bill McKee, Aaron Lewis, Marie Kaminsky, Pam Ruschak, Laura Morales, Shawn Gueyser, Row 4: Charles Chung, Thad Agee, Barbie Guy, Sara Luttinen, Mark Lengyel, Row 5: Jason Jesuit, Brian Konicke, Marc Harris.





Evans Photo



Fairbough Photo

**AFTER**  
basketball  
homecoming,  
queen Tiffany  
Albee, '94,  
celebrates  
with several of  
her friends.

**LORI DUST**,  
head girls  
basketball  
coach, looks  
shocked  
before parents  
night.

If you preferred baggy clothes or the most fashionable outfits, chances had it you dressed for comfort. Doc Martins on the feet, flannel without lining, and cartoon character clothing flooded the halls of MHS on a daily basis. Even if you felt like just wearing your favorite old sweat outfit, we knew - **YOU'VE GOT THE LOOK.**

**Wendy Marie Adams**-Cheerleader 10, 11, 12; Choir 9; FEA 11; Officer 12; Homecoming Basketball Court 10, 12; Homecoming Football Court 12; PNN 12; Poms 9; Powder Puff 10, 11, 12; Prom Court 11; Q and S 12; WMHS Officer 12. **Catherine Aimone**-CPC 12; Choir 9, 10, 11, 12; FEA 10, 11, 12; FHA 10; French Club 10, 11; Officer 12; MCAT 10, 11, 12; NHS 9, 10; Rhythmic Gymnastics 10, 11; SADD 10, 11, 12; SAC 10, 11, 12; Student Government 10, 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 10, 11, 12; Thespians 12; Video Yearbook 10; Vocal Teens 11, 12. **Tiffany Renee Albee**-Cheerleader 9; FEA 10; Gymnastics 10, 11, 12; Homecoming Basketball Queen 12; Homecoming Football Court 12; Choir 9; Powder Puff 11; Prom Court 11. **Ken Alderman**-Gamas Club 12. **Tim Aliff**-Band 9, 10, 11, 12; JETS 12; NHS 11, 12; NHS 9, 10.

**Monica Anguiano**-Poms 9; Powder Puff 10, 11, 12; Spanish Club 10; Officer 11; Track 9. **Josie Arena**-CPC 12; Debate 10, 11, 12; French Club 10, 11; Office Aide 12; Powder Puff 11, 12; Student Government 12; Track 10; Volleyball 9, 10. **Candace Elise Armour**-CHA 10; French Club 10, 11, 12; PNN 12; SAC 10; Student Government 10. **Ericka Ashworth**-Class Officer 11; NHS 9; Revue 12; Speech 10, 11, 12; SAC 11; Student Government 11; Swimming 12; Yearbook 9. **Gregory Michael Bachich**-CPC 12; Football 9, 10, 11, 12; JETS 11; NHS 12; Newspaper 12; PNN 12; Q and S 12; Teacher's Aide 12; WMHS 12; Wrestling 9.

**Kari Bailey**-Band 9, 10; Poms 9, 10; SADD 10, 12; Teacher's Aide 12. **Michael Bailey**-Football 9, 11; Track 11; Wrestling 12. **Dimitrios Bairaktaris**-FEA 10; French Club 10; Soccer 9, 10, 11; Spanish Club 11. **Christopher Lee Baker**-Baseball 9, 10; Basketball 9; NHS 9; Spanish Club 9, 10; Student Government 12; Teacher's Aide 10, 12; Tennis 9, 10, 11, 12. **Jody Lynn Balcerak**-Cheerleader 9; CPC 12; Choir 9, 10, 11, 12; Environmental Committee 12; Student Government 11, 12; Vocal Teens 11, 12.

**Joseph M. Bali**, **Mark Bane**-NHS 11, 12; NHS 9, 10; Quiz Bowl 11, 12; Spell Bowl 10, 11, 12. **Doreen R. Bank**-BPA 12; COE 12. **Christopher Bard**-Baseball 9; Basketball 9; Choir 9; Newspaper 12; Spring Play 9; Teacher's Aide 12; Track 11. **Anthony D. Bartolomeo**-Basketball 9; Football 9, 10, 11, 12; Morning Announcer 12; Newspaper 12; Prom Court 11; Track 9, 10, 11, 12.

**Kelly L. Beckett**-Choir 9; Spanish Club 10; Sunshine Society 12; Tennis 9. **Lisa Bell**-FEA 10; NHS 9; Office Aide 11; Poms 9; Powder Puff 12; Student Government 10, 11; Tennis 9, 10, 11. **Paul Kenneth Berkebile**, **Molly B. Bernstein**-Builder's Club 9; French Club 11; Natural Helpers 11, 12; Poms 9, 10; Powder Puff 10; Revue 11; Student Government 10, 11, 12. **Allen L. Berrier**.

**Alexis Marie Berta**-Builder's Club 9; Choir 9; Poms 9; Powder Puff Football 10, 11, 12; Speech 10, 11; Teacher's Aide 12. **Noel F. Bertoch**-Outreach Program 11; Powder Puff 10, 11, 12. **Victoria Bettin**-French Club 10; Poms 9; Powder Puff 10, 11, 12; SADD 10. **Nicholas Bice**, **Don Binkley**-Band 9; Football 9, 10.







**Steven Carl Blatz**-Games Club 10, 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 12; **Sally A. Blomiley**, **Adela M. Blondet**-Spanish Club 11; **Kevin Bobos**-Football 9, 10, 11, 12; **NJHS 9**; Wrestling 9, 10; **Todd Andrew Bogolia**-Choir 9; Football 9; Teacher's Aide 12.

**Michelle Christine Borman**-Basketball 10, 11, 12; Newspaper 9; Teacher's Aide 11, 12; Yearbook 12. **Sean Bowman**, **Bobby Bozinovski**-Football 9, 10, 11, 12; **Monica Braden**-Band 9, 10; **CPC 12**; Debate 11, 12; French Club 11; **NHS 11**; Officer 12; **NJHS 9**; Natural Helpers 11, 12; **Powder Puff 11**; **SAC 11**; Student Government 9, 10, 11, 12; **Edwin Roy Brant, Jr.**-Football 9; Wrestling 9, 10, 11, 12.

**Anthony F. Bridges**-Newspaper 12. **Cindy Brown**-Cheerleader 9; FFA 10, 12; Gymnastics 9, 10, 11, 12; Choir 9; Office Aide 12; **Powder Puff 11, 12**; **Jennifer Bryan**-Builder's Club 9; Cheerleader 9, 10; Choir 9; French Club 11, 12; Gymnastics 9, 10, 11, 12; **NHS 11, 12**; **NJHS 9**; 10; **Powder Puff 10, 11, 12**; Student Government 11, 12; **Terry L. Bryant**-Newspaper 12; **PNN 12**; Q and S 12; **WMHS Officer 12**; **Stacy Budzevski**.

# HITTING THE AIRWAVES



Geruska Photo

He's the producer of MHS's first year of the Pirate News Network. He's Vice President of WMHS Productions. He's the Opinion Editor and the assistant feature editor of the *Mirror*.

He's senior Terry Bryant, and he keeps himself very busy, as one can tell. As head producer of PNN, MHS's own televised news program, he is in charge of delegating responsibility among the reporters, choosing the news stories, and overseeing the actual production of the show on every Wednesday morning.

Besides the extra activities, Bryant finds time for class. His favorite classes include newspaper and broadcast journalism, but he is very devoted and has responsibility for both. "I love the business, it's my life's work," says Bryant. He also enjoys biology. "I love to learn about animals, how they live and behave."

Not surprisingly, his favorite teacher is his newspaper and broadcast journalism adviser, Jean Stanford. "She intro-

duced me to journalism, and has helped me use my talents to discover what I want to do." These discoveries will stay with Bryant outside the classroom. "She has taught me lessons through journalism that I will carry with me the rest of my life."

In his free time, Bryant likes to, "work out at home, go to the mall and movies, and talk on the phone."

What does Bryant want to do after graduation? He plans to attend Purdue University or Ball State to double major in communications and journalism. Bryant has also set some long-term goals for after college graduation. "I would like to get a job with a major television news program like NBC."

But wait, there's more to Bryant's outlook.

Bryant states, "Eventually I'd like to host my own own talk show or publish my own magazine."

Terry Bryant is on his way to reaching his goals. • **Rachel Torres**

**FAVORITE MOVIE:**  
*HOUSE PARTY 2*

**FAVORITE ACTOR:**  
DANNY GLOVER

**FAVORITE FOOD:**  
PIZZA

**FAVORITE TV SHOW:**  
*COSBY SHOW/A DIFFERENT WORLD RERUNS*

**PET PEEVE:** "I HATE IT WHEN PEOPLE CRITICIZE THINGS WHEN THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW MUCH WORK AND DEDICATION GOES INTO IT."

**Angie Byrom**-Cheerleader 9, 10, 11, 12; Choir 9, 10, 11, 12; FEA 10; Homecoming Basketball Court 10, 11, 12; Homecoming Football Queen 12; NHS 11, 12; Powder Puff 10, 11, 12; Prom Court 11; Quest Club Officer 12; Student Government 10, 11, 12; VocalTeens 12. **Scott Caldwell**, **Jefrey A. Cantwell**, **Michael Carden**, **Misty Cardenas**-Choir 9, 10, 11, 12; MCATF 12; Office Aide 11; SAC 12; Student Government 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 12.

**Michael H. Cardwell**-Academic Decathlon Team 12; PNN 12; Quiz Bowl 11, 12; Speech 12; WMHS 12. **Danielle M. Carter**, **Danny Celakoski**-Basketball 9. **Amber Clark**-BPA 12; Choir 9; Teacher's Aide 12. **Janine Clark**-Office Aide 9; Outreach Program 10, 11; Powder Puff 10, 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 10, 11, 12.

**Josh Clements**, **Julie C. Cole**-Office Aide 11, 12; Poms 12; Powder Puff 12. **Benita L. Cookston**-CPC 12; Choir 9, 10, 11, 12; FEA 10, 11, 12; NHS 11, 12; NUHS 9, 10; SAC 11, 12; Student Government 9, 11, 12; VocalTeens 11, 12. **Alex Corea**-Football 9; Revue 12; Wrestling 9. **Patricia Craig**-NHS 11, 12; NUHS 9; Powder Puff 11; Softball 9, 10, 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 12; Volleyball 9, 10.



**BIRTHDAY:**  
APRIL 20, 1976

**FAVORITE FOOD:**  
PEANUT BUTTER  
CAP'N  
CRUNCH

**FAVORITE MOVIE:**  
THE NAKED GUN

**MUSICAL GROUP:**  
PEARL JAM

**FAVORITE TEACHER:**  
MAX HUTCHINSON

# BIG LEAGUE DREAMS

The mention of Mike Czarzar's name usually brings two different types of reactions: Who is that? or Hey! He's a really cool guy! For those people who don't know Mike Czarzar, '94, is a truly inspirational person. Czarzar looks like a quiet and reserved person or like any other stressed out MHS student, but remember, looks can be deceiving.

Czarzar likes the changes that have occurred at MHS since he first began here. "It's much better than the dusty dungeon of my sophomore year." He plans on taking advantage of everything that this school has to offer.

A good start is probably with his academics. Czarzar works hard and receives excellent grades in his classes. His favorite teacher is Max Hutchinson. "He really, really, really, pushes me to my limits." And those limits have earned him a spot on the National

Honor Society, where he uses his academic ability to help others by tutoring.

Czarzar also enjoys playing sports, whether it is for the school or for recreation. His all time favorite is baseball. Most people know him as a baseball fanatic. People often say that they can picture Czarzar twenty years from now, with his little group of baseball fanatics, discussing the latest baseball paraphernalia.

On a personal level, Czarzar gets along really well with his family and loves just hanging out with his friends. One of his special talents is eating a whole raw onion. Hopefully he carries some strong breath mints with him after performing that death-defying feat. "I like girls who have similar interests as I do, but they must have opinions of their own."

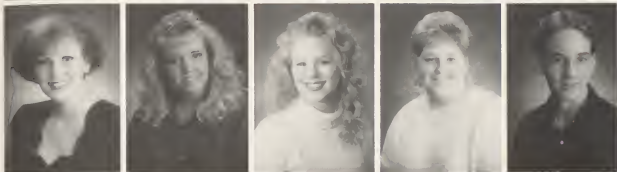
- by Kim Anderson



Evans Phil



**Brian Cram**-Revue 12; **Evan Crawford**-Creative Writing Club 12; **Bob Crews**-Band 9; BPA 9; French Club 10; HERO 12; Teacher's Aide 12; **Michael Csaszar**-Baseball 9, 10, 11; NHS 11, 12; Spanish Club 11, 12; **Bob Cunningham**-Cross Country 10, 11, 12; Softball 9, 10; Teacher's Aide 11, 12; Track 11.



**Candi Cunningham**-Cross Country 10; FEA 10, 11; Choir 9; Poms 9, 11; Softball 9, 10; **Danielle Daugherty**, **Kara A. Davis**-Builder's Club 9; HERO Officer 12; Choir 9; Spanish Club 11; **Heldi Ann DeYoung**-Powder Puff 10, 11, 12; **Randy A. DeYoung**.



**Brien Delich**-Baseball 9, 10, 11, 12; Basketball 9, 10, 11, 12; FEA 12; Football 9; Guest Club 12; **Lisa Michelle Derico**-Office Aide 11, 12; Powder Puff 11, 12; Student Government 9, 10, 11, 12; Track 10, 11, 12; **Olivia Dojcinovsk**-Basketball 9; Cross Country 10; FEA 8; Newspaper 11, 12; Powder Puff 12; Swimming 10; **Brandon J. Doneski**-Basketball 9; Choir 9; Teacher's Aide 11; **John R. Draslich**-Band 9, 10, 11; HERO Officer 12; Revue 11; Teacher's Aide 11.



**Martin L. Drayton**-Band 9, 10, 11, 12; FHA 12; Swimming 10; **Paula Dres**-Builder's Club 9; Choir 9; Office Aide 12; Poms 9, 10, 11; Powder Puff 10, 11; Spanish Club 11, 12; **Rene Dunn**-FHA 10, Officer 11, 12; NHS 11, 12; Poms 9; SADD 10, 11; Spanish Club 11; Officer 12; **Sunnye Durham**-Class Officer 9; French Club 9, 10, 11; NHS 11, 12; NHS 9, 10; Newspaper 9, 11, 12; Office Aide 9; Natural Helpers 11, 12; Powder Puff 10, 11, 12; Q and S 11, 12; SADD 10; Student Government 10, 11, 12; Officer 9; Tennis 10; Yearbook 9; **Mandy Echterling**-Powder Puff 12; Teachers Aide 12.



**Arte Emmanoilidis**-German Club 10, 11; Tennis 9, 10; **Michelle Ensign**-FHA 10, 11, 12; HERO 12; Powder Puff 10, 11; Teacher's Aide 11; **Scott Erney**-Teacher's Aide 12; **Daniel Evans**-Academic Decathlon Team 12; Basketball Manager 11, 12; **David Wayne Evans**-Newspaper 11, 12; PNH 12; Q and S 12; WMS 12; Wrestling 10; Yearbook 11, 12.



**Kimberley Evans**-NHS 9; Choir 9; Teacher's Aide 9, 10; **Megan A. Evans**, **Nicole Ferlus**-Basketball 9, 10; Class Officer 9, 10; Creative Writing Club Officer 12; FEA 12; German Club 11; Homecoming Basketball Queen 9; Office Aide 11; Powder Puff 11, 12; Guest Club 12; Revue 12; Softball 9, 10, 11; Spanish Club 9; Officer 10; Student Government 9, 10; Teacher's Aide 11; Volleyball 9, 10, 11; **Laura Diane Flan**-Band 9, 10, 11; Basketball 9, 10; CPC 12; Debate 10, 11, 12; Office Aide 12; Powder Puff 12; Track 10; Volleyball 9, 10; **Marie-Claire Foster**-Art Club 9, 12; CPC 12; FEA 11, Officer 12; French Club 9; Outreach Program 10; Powder Puff 11, 12; Speech 11; Student Government 11, 12; Swimming 12; Track 10; Volleyball 10.

# 1994 Seniors

**Eugene Freeman**-Baseball 9; Basketball 9; **Emily Ann Frizzell**-CPC 12; FEA 10; French Club 10, 11; Office Aide 9; Poms 9; Powder Puff 10, 12; SADD 10, 11; **Scott Gallagher**, **Jason Galoozie**-Baseball 9; Class Officer 12; CPC 12; Choir 9; Creative Writing Club 12; Football 9, 10, 11, 12; Games Club 9; Golf 12; Morning Announcer 10, 12; Office Aide 10; Natural Helpers 11, 12; PNH 12; Quest Club 12; Spring Play 9; Student Government 10, 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 10; Track 9, 11; Wrestling 9; **Brad Gregory Garity**-Football 9, 10.



**Daniel Garza**, **Thomas Daniel Gayda**-Basketball Statistician 9, 10, 11, 12; Builder's Club 9; Class Officer 10; CPC 12; FEA 12; Newspaper 9, 11, 12; Office Aide 11; PNH 12; Q and S 11; Officer 12; SADD 11; SAC 10, 11; Student Government Officer 9, 12; Teacher's Aide 12; WMHS Officer 12; Yearbook 11, Editor 12; **Michael W. Gearhart**-Games Club 11; JETS 12; NHS 11, 12; **Jeremy S. Gilbert**, **Matthew Gill**.



**Joanna L. Giagola**-Basketball Manager 10; German Club 10; **Angela J. Glavas**-Morning Announcer 12; Powder Puff 12; Teacher's Aide 12; **Czar D. Goetz**-Baseball 9; CPC 12; NHS 11, 12; NHS 9; Quest Club 11; Spanish Club 11; **Nathan Gombus**, **Alex Gonzalez**.



**Diane Gonzalez**, **Ann L. Gorman**-Cross Country 9, 10, 11, 12; German Club 10, 11, Officer 12; JETS 11, 12; NHS 11, 12; NHS 9; Student Government 9; Swimming Manager 9; Tennis 9, 10, 11, 12; Wrestling Manager 10; **Riste Gorseski**-Baseball 9; Basketball 9; Football 9; JETS 11; NHS 12; Officer 12; NHS 9; Spanish Club 11, 12; **Brandon Grace**-Swimming 9, 10, 11; **Geoffrey Bryan Gronowski**-Baseball 9, 10; Basketball 9, 10, 11, 12; Football 9, 11, 12; Choir 9.



**Danyelle Gunn**-Band 9, 10, 11, 12; Flag Corps 11, 12; HERO 12; **Kimberly Gutierrez**-Band 9; Cheerleader 9, 10, 11, 12; CPC 12; FEA 10; Gymnastics 9, 10; NHS 9; Office Aide 12; Natural Helpers 11, 12; Powder Puff 10, 11, 12; Quest Club 12; Student Government 10, 11, 12; Track 9; **Jacqueline Harms**-Choir 9, 10, 11, 12; French Club 10, 11; NHS 11, 12; Powder Puff 10; SADD 10; Student Government 12; **Mike A. Harney**, **John Haro**-Choir 9; Football 9.



**Mark Haro**-Football 9; **Clarence J. Harris II**-Basketball 9, 10; Quest Club 9, 10, 11; **Paul T. Harris**-Basketball 9, 10; Tennis 10; Track 9, 10, 11, 12; **Darnieshia L. Henderson**-CPC 12; Newspaper 12; Teacher's Aide 12; **Jodi Hendricks**-Builder's Club 9; Choir 9; Poms 9; Revue 11; Spanish Club 11.







**Jennifer D. Herbert**-Basketball 9, 10, 11; CPC 12; German Club 10; NJHS 9; SADD 9; Student Government 12; Teacher's Aide 12; Track 9, 10, 11, 12; Volleyball 8, 10, 11; **Karl Stephen Herr**-Band 9, 10; German Club 9, 10, 11; Student Government 10; Tennis 9, 10; **Dan Hidalgo**-Cross Country 9; Golf 9, 10; **Crystal L. Higgins**-Choir 9; Office Aide 12; Teacher's Aide 11, 12; **James Hinojosa**.

**Melinda Hollandsworth**-Builder's Club 9; Cheerleader 9, 10; Choir 9; Teacher's Aide 11, 12; **Tori Hughes**-Basketball 9, 10, 11, 12; Class Officer 12; Choir 9; FEA 12; Quest Club 12; Track 9, 11, 12; **Sarah Hummel**-Band 9, 10, 11, 12; SADD 10, 11; Track Manager 10; **Abigail Igarta**-Class Officer 11; Environmental Committee 12; FEA 10; NHS 11, 12; NJHS 9; Newspaper 9; Natural Helpers 11, 12; PNN 12; Prom Committee 11; Speech 10, 11, 12; SAC 11; Student Government 10, 11, 12; Yearbook 9; **Stevan Iglenza**-German Club 10; NJHS 9, 10.

**Tom Ilievski**-Soccer 10, 12; **Ray L. Jackson**-Revue 12; **Jason Janiszewski**-Football 9; Swimming 10, 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 12; **Julie Jewell**-CPC 12; Powder Puff 10, 11, 12; Student Government 9; **Derek Johnson**-Baseball 9; German Club 12.

**Brian Jones**-Office Aide 9, 11; Teacher's Aide 11; **Suzana Josifoska**-Powder Puff 11; Spanish Club 10; **Darrell Joselyn**, **Amy D. Judge**, **Lupce Kajmakoski**-German Club 9, 10, 11, 12; Soccer 9, 10, 11, 12.

**Jim Karas**-Choir 9; **Victor Karbowski, Jr.**-Band 9, 10; Football 9; **Joseph Kendrick**-Football 9; **Karen Kessler**-Builder's Club 9; FEA 10; NHS 11, 12; NJHS 9; Poms 9; Powder Puff 12; Spanish Club 10; Student Government 10; Teacher's Aide 12; **Jennifer Kings**-Choir 9; Fall Play 11; FEA 10; NJHS 9; Speech 11; Tennis 10; Thespians 11.

**Kristen G. Kinn**-Newspaper 11; O and S 11; Officer 12; **Alison L. Klau**-DPA 12; Teacher's Aide 11; **Lee M. Konicke**, **Gordana Koroskoska**-FEA 12; NJHS 9; Student Government 10; **Tatiana L. Kostur**.

# 1994 Seniors

**Jeff Krol**-Basketball 8, 10; Football 9; Student Government 9. **Jennifer Krol**-FEA 9, 10, 11; French Club 10; NHS 11, 12; NHS 9, 10; Powder Puff 10, 11, 12; Revue 10; Student Government's **Matthew Kuzma**-Band 9, 10; Key Club 9, 10; **Melissa Lagalo**-Choir 9, 10; French Club 9, 10; Office Aide 11, 12; Outreach Program 10; Track 10. **Jon Lambert**-Art Club 12; Environmental Club 11, Officer 12; Germen Club 10, 11, 12; Soccer 9; Student Government 11, 12.

**Phillip C. Langbehn**-Art Club 12; Choir 9; Teacher's Aide 12. **Kathryn Laver**-Powder Puff 12; Office Aide 12. **Tim Lavery**-Baseball 9, 10, 11, 12; Football 9, 10; NHS 11, 12; NHS 9; Spanish Club 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 12; Wrestling 9, 10, 11, 12. **Gil-Hwei Lee**-Academic Decathlon Team 11, 12; German Club 10, 11, 12; MCAT 12; NHS 11, 12; NHS 9; Orchestra 9, 10, 11, 12; Quiz Bowl 10, 11, 12; Revue 11; Science Olympiad 12; Speech 12; Spell Bowl 10, 11, 12; SAC 12; Student Government 10, 11, 12; Super Bowl 10, 11, 12; Tennis 9, 10, 12; Yearbook Editor 9. **Brian J. Lehr**-Newspaper 9; SADD 11; Officer 12; Student Government 10, 11, 12; Track 9; Yearbook 9.

**Tanya Lesniak**, **James M. Lewis**-Baseball 9. **Margaret Liebenthal**-Art Club 12; CPC 12; Environmental Club 12; Fall Play 10; Outreach Program 10; PNN 12; SADD 10; Speech 10, 11; Student Government 10; Teacher's Aide 12; WHHS 12; Yearbook 9. **Megan M. Lindsay**-Art Club 12; Creative Writing Club Officer 12; Fall Play 12; Key Club 12; Poms 9, 10; Teacher's Aide 12. **Jason Little**-Baseball 9, 10; Choir 9.

**Stacey Marie Little**-BPA 12; COE 12; Office Aide 9; Powder Puff 10. **Ricardo Lopez, Jr.**-BPA 12; Wrestling 11. **Raymond Lucero**-Baseball 9, 10; Cross Country 11, 12; Football 9, 10; Teacher's Aide 11; Wrestling 9, 10, 11, 12. **David W. Mahaffey**-Football 9, 10, 11, 12; NHS 9; Wrestling 9, 10, 11. **Jennifer A. Malocha**.

**Alexander G. Marchuk**-Office Aide 12. **Cary A. Martinez**-Games Club 10. **Shannon Mason**-Basketball 9; Builder's Club 9; Cheerleader 9, 10; Choir 9; Office Aide 11; Powder Puff 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 10; Tennis 9. **Stanley Matunas**-Basketball 9; Choir 9. **Michelle R. Mayers**-Choir 9, 11, 12; Poms 9, 10, 11, 12; Powder Puff 10; Revue 12; Track 9; Vocal Teams 12.

**Tanya Nicole McCollum**-Art Club 12; Choir 9; Office Aide 10. **Michael David Menendez**-Art Club 9, 12; Band 9, 10, 11, 12; Creative Writing Club Officer 12; Games Club 12; Revue 11, 12; SADD 11, 12; Spring Play 12; Theatricals 12. **Jenny Metros**-Basketball 9; Builder's Club 9; Cheerleader 10; Choir 9; CPC 12; French Club 10, 11, 12; NHS 12; NHS 9; Poms 9; Powder Puff 10, 11, 12; Quiz Club 11; Student Government 11; Tennis 9, 10, 11, 12. **Pete Milak**, **Pero Milev**-Soccer 11, 12.





**Tom Milevski**-Football 9; Science Club  
**Jeremy S. Miller**-Football 9; German Club 10,  
 11; NJHS 9; Office Aide 9; Student Government 12;  
 Swimming 10 **Rachel M. Miller, Beth**  
**Minninger**-CPC 12; Choir 9; FE 10, 12; Office Aide  
 12; Poms 9, 10, 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 12 **Angela N.**  
**Mish**-Cherleader 9, 10, 11, 12; CPC 12; Choir 9, 10,  
 11, 12; Homecoming Football Court 12; NJHS 9; Office  
 Aide 11; Powder Puff 10, 12; Student Government 9, 10,  
 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 10; Track 9; VocalTeens 12.

**Matthew Mitch**-Football 9, 10, 11, 12;  
 Track 11. **Alexandra Mitchell**-Powder Puff 10;  
 Quest Club 11 **Diane Marie Mitchell**-CPC 12;  
 Powder Puff 10, 11, 12; Quest Club 12; SADD 10;  
 Spanish Club 10; Teacher's Aide 12 **Christina**  
**Moffitt**-bulder's Club 9; Choir 9, 10, 11, 12; FE 10,  
 11; Officer 12; NHS 11, 12; NJHS 9; Speech 11; Teacher's  
 Aide 12; VocalTeens 11, 12 **Lisa Moke**-FE 10;  
 Homecoming Basketball Court 10, 11; Newspaper 9;  
 Poms 9; SADD 10; Teacher's Aide 12; Yearbook 9.

**Brian Mola**-Fall Play 12; FE 10, JETS 10,  
 12; MCATP 10, 12; NHS 11, 12; NJHS 9, 10; Newspaper  
 9; Revue 10; Spanish Club 12; Spring Play 12; SAC 10,  
 12; Student Government Officer 9, 10, 12; Thespians 12;  
 Video Yearbook 10; Yearbook 9. **April Lynn**  
**Mullins**-BPA 12; Office Aide 11; Powder Puff  
 11 **Mario T. Munguia, Jr.**-CPC 12; Choir 9;  
 Football 9, 12; Newspaper 9; Soccer 12; Teacher's Aide  
 12 **Ombeline Munier**-Choir 12; FE 12; French  
 Club 12; PNN 12 **Kristian C. Muniz.**

# WRITE ON TARGET



Geruska Photo

Determined is the word that best describes Sunnye Durham, '94. For the past two years she has been an active part of the school newspaper, *the Mirror*, and hopes to one day work for a magazine in some capacity.

"I hope to pursue any type of job in journalism. I like page editing. My ultimate goal is to be an editor, but I'm happy writing. If I'm poor and I'm writing . . . I'll have it good," says Durham, who has served as news, feature, and in-depth editor of *the Mirror* in her high school journalism career. She feels MHS has been important to her developing and preparing for college.

"I think it will be very impressive when colleges see I

graduated from MHS," continues Durham.

Durham is quite happy with the way her life is going, and has been for most of it. She admits to being moody sometimes, but says for the most part she is easy to get along with.

"People, I think, rub off on me a little, but only the good parts, the bad are mine," Durham says.

She considers herself unique because she was one of the first black students to attend a Merrillville elementary school. She is used to the differences between whites and blacks and has adapted to it. Durham feels she is no different then anyone else.

-by Tom Gayda

**BIRTHDAY:**  
AUGUST 7, 1976

**FAVORITE MOVIE:**  
*STRAIGHT OUT OF BROOKLYN*

**FAVORITE FOOD:**  
MIAMI SUBS

**FAVORITE CAR:**  
GEO TRACKER

**FAVORITE ATHLETE:**  
B.J. ARMSTRONG

**FAVORITE ATHLETE WITH AN ATTITUDE:**  
ANDRE AGASSI

**FAVORITE TV SHOW:**  
*UNSOLVED MYSTERIES*

**Erin Patricia Murphy**-Choir 10.  
**Sylvia Musikovski**-Powder Puff 10; Quest Club 10; Spanish Club 10.  
**Jo Ann Myers**-Choir 9, 10; Fall Play 10; French Club 9; Key Club 11; Volleyball 10.  
**Michele E. Mysliwiec**-Cheerleader 10, 11, 12; FEA 10, 12; Poms 9; Powder Puff 10, 11, 12; SADD 10; **Terrance M. Narkum**-Baseball 9; CPC 12; Football 9, 10, 11, 12.

**Catherine Navarro**-Class Officer 10; Choir 9, 10, 11, 12; Morning Announcer 10, 11, MCATF 10, 11; Newspaper 11, Editor 12; Outreach Program 11, 12; PNN 12; Q and S 11, 12; Revue 11, 12; Spanish Club 11; Speech 10, 11, 12; Spring Play 10; SAC 10; Student Government 10, 11, 12; Swimming 9, 10, 11, 12; Vocal/Teens 11, 12; WMHS 12.  
**David M. Nelson**, **Kate Neskoski**-Student Government 9; Sunshine Society 12.  
**Traje Niceski**-German Club 12; NHS 11, 12; Soccer 10, 11, 12.  
**Sara Katherine Nicholls**-Builder's Club 9; CPC 12; Choir 9; FEA 10; Poms 9, 10, 11, 12; Powder Puff 10, 11, 12; Q and S 12; SADD 10; Softball 9, 10, 11, 12; Yearbook 12.

**Michael Niezgoda**-CPC 12; Student Government 12; Teacher's Aide 12.  
**Sean O'Hara**-Creative Writing Club 12; Football 9, 10; Choir 9; Office Aide 11; Spanish Club 12.  
**Christopher O'Mara**-CPC 12; FEA 10; Choir 9; Student Government 10.  
**Tina Oaks**, **Julie Obetkovski**-NHS 11, 12; NHS 9, 10; Newspaper 10, 11, Editor 12; PNN 12; Q and S 10; Officer 11, 12; Student Government 9, 10, 11; WMHS 12; Yearbook 9.



**BIRTHDATE:**  
 OCTOBER 25, 1975

**FAVORITE COLOR:**  
 BLUE

**FAVORITE FOOD:**  
 McDONALD'S

**FAVORITE GROUP:**  
 CLUTCH

**FAVORITE SINGER:**  
 JAY ZOMBIE

**FAVORITE SUBJECT:**  
 SCIENCE

**FAVORITE SPORT:**  
 SKATEBOARDING;  
 SNOWBOARDING

**FAVORITE SONG:**  
 A SHOGUN  
 NAMED MARCUS

# ON A NEW TRACK

As the popular trends of the '90's come and go, Brandon Grace, '94, sits back and watches wondering why "some people try so hard to be something they're not." Grace has found his own identity and has decided to stick with it, not worrying about the current fads. Actually, the unique style he chose a few years ago is now becoming quite popular.

Grace likes to go with the cool, laid back, new wave skater look. You can always find him in comfortable flannels, t-shirts, baggy pants, and groovy shoes. He knows his appearance is unique, especially his colorful hairstyle, but he doesn't mind. It's all part of his individual characteristics and fun personality. He knows who he is and that's enough. However, "a few of my peers have the wrong idea about me because of my appearance

and supposed past. I just want them to know, I'm a true supporter of Red Ribbon Week."

Grace has a wide range of talents which include skateboarding, snowboarding, swimming, singing, and playing in a band named "Elvis in Wonderland." Grace is very independent and is not afraid to turn his words into actions. He feels that "you need to stand up for what you believe in, or don't believe at all."

Grace's short term goal is for "Elvis in Wonderland" to be successful, and he will contribute as much as possible to make this happen. He plans to go to college after graduation and pursue success in whichever career he chooses. Grace wants the world to be a better place and hopes "that the people who need to open their eyes will."

-by Sara Nicholls



Farabaugh Photo



# 1994 Seniors



**Maxel Ochso-NHS** 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 11 **Steven Oh-Basketball** 9; NHS Officer 11, 12; NHS 9; Soccer 11; Spanish Club 11, 12; Student Government 10 **Jason J. Olesiek** **Erik Olson-Fall Play** 12; German Club 10, 12; MCATF 12; NHS 12; NHS 9; 10; Speech 12; Spring Play 10, 12; SAC 10, 12; Theatrics 10, 11, 12 **Wanda Olvera-Cheerleader** 9; FEA 10; NHS 11, 12; NHS 9; Newspaper 9; Poms 10, 11, 12; Powder Puff 10, 11, 12; SADD 10, 11; Spanish Club 11, 12.

**Monica Sylvia Origel-Builders Club** 9; Cheerleader 9, 11, 12; Choir 9; FEA 10; Homecoming Football Court 12; Homecoming Basketball Queen 11; MCATF 11; Powder Puff 10, 11, 12; Prom Queen 11; Revue 10; Spanish Club 11; Tennis 10 **William Anthony Origel-Baseball** 9; Basketball 10; Football 9, 12; Student Government 10; Track 11, 12 **Alejandra Ortiz** **Bryan Osborne-Football** 10, 11; HERO 12 **Keith Osborne**.

**Stephanie M. Pagel-FEA** 10; French Club 10, 11; NNJHS 9; Office Aide 12; Poms 9, 10, 11, 12; Powder Puff 10, 11, 12; SADD 10 **Willie S. Parker** **Ben Parrish-Baseball** 9, 10, 11, 12; Basketball 9; Football 9, 10, 11, 12; Newspaper 9 **Sarah B. Parrish-Cheerleader** 9; Choir 9; FEA 12; Gymnastics 10, 11, 12; NHS 11, 12; Office Aide 12; Powder Puff 11, 12 **Sharon A. Pavnio-Choir** 9; Office Aide 10, 12; Powder Puff 12.

**Stacy M. Peek-BPA** 12; Choir 9; Teacher's Aide 11 **Donald Petrick** **Maria A. Peluyera-SPA12**; Poms 9; Teacher's Aide 11, 12 **Melissa L. Peterson-Environmental Club** 12; Student Government 12; Sunshine Society 12 **Brian Petyo-Basketball** 9; Teacher's Aide 11, 12.

**Robin R. Phillips-Choir** 9, 10, 11, 12; Revue 11, 12; Spring Play 11 **Ted Phillips-Baseball** 9, 10, 11, 12; Class Officer 10; Cross Country 9; Football 9, 10; NHS 11, 12; NHS 9; Newspaper 9; Spanish Club 11; Wrestling 9, 10, 11, 12; Yearbook 9 **Joseph Piazza-Games Club** 10, 12 **Christine M. Pozgay-Basketball** 9, 10, 11, 12; FEA 12; PNN 12; Revue 12; Softball 9, 10, 11, 12; Volleyball 9, 10, 11, 12 **Anastasia Praszchak-Band** 9, 10, 11; HERO 12.

**Michael A. Pratscher-Class Officer** 10; Football 9; German Club 10, 11; Officer 12; Morning Announcer 11; NHS 11, 12; NHS 9, 10; Revue 12; Speech 11; Officer 12; Spring Play 12; Student Government 11, 12; Yearbook 9 **Mitzi Pratt-Office Aide** 9, 12; Teacher's Aide 11 **Paul E. Puskar-Baseball** 9, 10, 11, 12; Basketball 9; Tennis 9, 10, 11, 12 **Justin T. Ramage-Basketball** 9; Football 9, 10, 11, 12; Golf 10; Morning Announcer 10, 12; Newspaper 11, 12; Spanish Club 10; Student Government 9; Track 11 **Krista A. Richardson-German Club** 10, 11; NHS 11, 12; NHS 9; Powder Puff 12; Student Government 9, 10; Track 10.

# 1994

## Seniors

**Kristina N. Riese**-Cheerleader 9; NJHS 9, 10; pom-poms 10, 11; captain 12; FEA 10, 11; NHS 11, 12; Class Officer 11. **Allison S. Rimer**-Band 9, 10, 11, 12; FEA 10; German Club 10, 11, 12; NHS 11, 12; NJHS 9, 10; Powder Puff 12; Revere 12; Student Government 9, 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 11; Wrestling Manager 9, 10. **Claudia Rodriguez**-**Kathy Rodriguez**-FHA 11, Officer 12; HERO 12; Choir 9; Outreach Program 10, 11; Powder Puff 11; Swimming 10. **Christopher Rhoder**-German Club 10.



**Vanessa Roldan**, **Fernanda Romero**-FEA 12; French Club 12; PNN 12; Spanish Club 12; WMHS 12. **Ronica Rose**-CPC 12; French Club 12; Powder Puff 10, 11, 12. **Frank Rossmann**-NHS 11, 12. **Brian Ruschak**-Coff 9, 10; Student Government 10; Teacher's Aide 12.



**Cheryl A. Santos**-Basketball 9, 10, 11, 12; Golf 10, 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 12; Track 9, 10. **Dana Schlinger**-Environmental Club 10; German Club 10, 11, 12; Powder Puff 12; Student Government 12; Sunshine Society 12; Volleyball 9. **Dawn Schneider**-HERO 12; Outreach Program 10, 11. **Jason Schneider**-Academic Decathlon 9; Art Club 10. **Becky Lynn Schreiber**-Choir 9, 10, 11, 12; FEA 10; Gymnastics 9, 10, 11, 12; NHS 11, 12; Powder Puff 10, 11, 12; Softball 12; Student Government 10, 11, Officer 12; Swimming 12; Teacher's Aide 12; Track 9, 10, 11; Vocal Teams 11, 12.



**Patrick Schultz**-Baseball 9; Basketball 9, 10; CPC 12; Football 9, 10, 11, 12; Newspaper 9; Student Government 11; Track 11; Unified Basketball 11. **Ryan K. Selberling**-Band 9, 10, 11, 12; Fall Play 11, 12; FEA 10; Newspaper 9; Rethinking Committee 10, 11, 12; SADD 10, 11; Speech 11, 12; Spring Play 10, 12; SAC 10, 11, 12; Student Government 10, 11, 12; Thespians 10, Officer 11, 12; Video Yearbook 10; Yearbook 9. **Koni Lynn Seifert**-German Club 10; HERO 12; Powder Puff 11. **John J. Sell II**-Band 9; JETS 11, 12; NHS 11, 12; NJHS 9; Student Government 12; Swimg 9, 10, 11, 12. **Jennifer J. Shaffer**-Academic Decathlon 10, 11, 12; Band 9, 10, 11, 12; JETS 11, 12; NHS 11, 12; NJHS 9, 10; Quiz Bowl 11, 12; Spring Play 9; Student Government 12; Super Bowl 11, 12.



**Benjamin F. Shapley**-Basketball 9; Football 9, 10, 11, 12; NJHS 9; Newspaper 9; Student Government 10, 12; Track 9, 10, 11, 12. **Ryan Shelton**-Art Club 9, 12; Baseball 9; Basketball 9, 10, 11, 12; Soccer 10, 12; SAC 9. **Daniel J. Shih**-Baseball 9; Football 11, 12. **Kelly R. Siecker**, **Kimberly Simpson**-Powder Puff 10, 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 11, 12; Trainer 10, 12.



**Harry A. Sims**-Basketball 9; Choir 9, 10, 11, 12; Football 9, 10, 11, 12; Office Aide 12; Student Government 10; Track 9, 10, 11; Vocal Teams 10, 11, 12. **Diane Sitnikowski**-Powder Puff 10, 11, 12; Tennis 10. **Staci Skura**-Gymnastics 9, 10, 11, 12; Newspaper 9, 11, 12; Office Aide 12; Outreach Program 10; Poms 11; Powder Puff 12; Q and S 11, Officer 12; Speech 12; Tennis 10; Yearbook 9. **Alan Slade**-German club 10, 11, 12; JETS 12. **Brian Smith**.





**Gregory T. Smith**-Baseball 9; Football 9, 10, 11, 12; NJHS 9; Track 11; Wrestling 10, 12; **Jennifer Smith**-Builder's Club 9; German Club 12; Powder Puff 12; SADD 10, 11; Officer 12; Student Government 9, 10, 11, 12; Sunshine Society 10, 11; Officer 12; Teacher's Aide 10, 12; **Amanda Snover**-Choir 9, 10, 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 11, 12; Track 10; **Jennifer Snowden**-Choir 9; Office Aide 12; **Eddie Sobh**-Baseball 9, 10, 11, 12; Spanish Club 10, 11, 12; SAC 12; Student Government 12; Tennis 10, 11, 12.

**Valerie Solon**-FEA 12; FHA 11; Newspaper 9; Student Government 11, 12; Yearbook Editor 9; **Tim Sopko**-Choir 9, 10, 11, 12; Fall Play 11; Quiz Bowl 12; Soccer 9, 10, 11, 12; Tennis 10, 11, 12; **Amy Nicole Sorchevich**-Powder Puff 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 11, 12; **Valerie Sparks**-Powder Puff 10; **Christina Stamate**.

**Heather Stamate**-FEA 12; French Club 9, 10, 11; Officer 12; NJHS 9; Swimming 10, 11, 12; **Chris J. Stark**; **Elizabeth Stefanoski**; **Michael W. Stille**-Baseball 9, 10; Office Aide 12; **Rebecca L. Stinnett**-Choir 9; Powder Puff 12; Swimming 10; Trainer 10, 11, 12.

**Nick Stojasavljevich**-German Club 12; **Kimberly Stout**-Choir 9; Office Aide 10; Teacher's Aide 12; **John Sut**-PNN 12; Swimming 10; **Jason Swigon**-Football 9; **Laura Terek**-Poms 9.

**Leandra Thames**-Choir 9, 10; **Lakesha L. Thomas**-BPA 11, 12; **Daniel Patrick Titus**-Baseball 9; Football 11; Office Aide 12; **Margaret M. Toledo**; **Rachel V. Torres**-Basketball 9, 11; Debate 10; Officer 11, 12; Flag Corps 12; Morning Announcer 11, 12; MCATF 11, 12; Newspaper 9; PNN 12; Q and S 12; Revue 12; Speech 11, 12; Spell Bowl 9, 10; Student Government 10, 12; Volleyball 9, 10; WMHS 12; Yearbook 12.

**Alex C. Trajkov**; **Julie Trajkovski**-Key Club 11; Choir 9; **Ianne Transfiguracion**-Fall Play 12; MCATF 12; NJHS 12; NJHS 9, 10; Powder Puff 12; Tennis 9, 10; **Chong Ming Tsang**; **Jessica L. Uribe**.

# 1994 Seniors

**Amy Valentine**-Basketball 9; HERO 12; Track 9, 10 **Anthony J. Vasallo**-Environment Club 11; Officer 12; Football 9; German Club 10, 11, 12; NHS 11, 12; NJHS; Student Government 11, 12; **Erick Vertucci**-Football 9; Student Government 12 **Amber Vestal**-Powder Puff 12; Teacher's Aide 12; Volleyball 9. **Carl A. Virgo**.

**Wilfred L.U. Vivo**-Choir 9, 10, 11, 12; Football 9; MCATF 10, 11, 12; NHS 11, 12; NJHS 9, 10; Spanish Club 11; Speech 10, 11, 12; SAC 12; Student Government 10, Officer 11, 12; Vocal Teams 10, 11, 12; **David Vode**-Class Officer 12; CPC 12; Natural Helpers 11, 12; Spanish Club 11, 12; SAC 12; Student Government 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 12; Wrestling 9, 10, 11, 12 **Larry Wade**. **Anthony J. Walls**. **Dina M. Weis**-Class Officer 11; Choir 9, 10, 11; Newspaper 11; Editor 12; Outreach Program 10; PNN 12; Q and S 11, 12; Revue 11; Spanish Club 11; Speech 10, 11, 12; Spring Play 10; Student Government 11, 12; Swimming 12.

**Sandra L. Weliczko**-Band 9, 10; Basketball 9, 10, 11; Powder Puff 2; Quest Club 10; Softball 10, 11; Teacher's Aide 12; Volleyball 9, 10, 11 **Krista West**-Band 9, 10, 11, 12; Fall Play 11; German Club 10; Revue 11; Track 10, 11, 12 **Chris Wilkerson**-Band 9; Soccer 9, 10, 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 11 **Lavetta L. Williams**-BPA 11, 12; CPC 12. **Marquis Williams**.

**Rebecca Williams**-Football Manager 11; Student Government 10, 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 11, 12; Wrestling Manager 10 **Deric Wilson**-Soccer 10, 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 10 **Andrea S. Wirtz**-Art Club 12; CPC 12; Environmental Club 12; Fall Play 10; Newspaper 9; Outreach Program 10, 11; PNN 12; Powder Puff 12; Q and S 12; Speech 10, 11; SAC 12; Student Government 9, 12; Track 10, 11; WMHS 12; Yearbook 9 **Patillia A-Nita Woods**-CPC 12; Speech 9, 10, 11, 12 **Rebecca L. Yager**-Cheerleading 9; Poms 10, 11; Choir 9

**Erin Yeoman**-Band 9; Cheerleader 9; Cross Country 10, 12; Powder Puff 11, 12; Softball 9, 10; Teacher's Aide 12 **Tina Yurechko**-CPC 12; Choir 9, 10, 11, 12; Creative Writing Club 12; MCATF 10, 11, 12; Q and S 12; Revue 11, 12; SpellBowl 10, 11, 12; Spring Play 12; SuperBowl 10, 11, 12; Teacher's Aide 11, 12; Vocal Teams 11, 12; Yearbook 12 **Robert Zamora**-Basketball 9; Track 9 **Carrie Zapinski**-Basketball 9, 10, 11, 12; Cheerleader 9; Powder Puff 10; Revue 10, 11, 12; Softball 9; Track 11; Volleyball 9, 10. **Frank Zarakas**-Band 9.



## Activity Abbreviations

**BPA** Business Professionals of America  
**CPC** Commencement Planning Committee  
**FEA** Future Educators of America  
**FHA** Future Homemakers of America  
**MCATF** Multi-Cultural Awareness Task Force  
**NHS** National Honor Society

**NJHS** National Junior Honor Society  
**PNN** Pirate News Network  
**Q and S** Quill and Scroll  
**SAC** Student Advisory Council  
**SADD** Students Against Driving Drunk  
**WMHS** Broadcasting Club



# Not P ICTURED



**Darrell T. Artka**  
**Arturo Blanco**  
**Julian Bond**  
**Shannon L. Bondra**-Literary Magazine 10; Newspaper 10, 11, 12; Office Aide 11; PNN 12; Q and S 12; WMHS 12; Yearbook 10, 11, 12.  
**Christopher D. Brown**-Basketball 9; Football 10, 11, 12; Track 9, 10, 11, 12.  
**Nicole L. Brown**  
**Anthony Buonomo**  
**Lavon Chandler**  
**Leslie Chandler**-Swimming 10; Track 9, 10, 11.  
**Chester Cochran**  
**Stephanie Cole**-HERO 12; Teacher's Aide 10.  
**David Danford**  
**Merla R. DeYoung**  
**Joyce A. Eichensehr**  
**Gerald S. Elenz**-Football 9; SADD 10.  
**Jennifer Fankhauser**  
**Tony Anthony Gargano**  
**Eva Gawrys**-Office Aide 10, 11.  
**Jose Gonzalez**  
**Eric Guerrero**  
**Rudy Gutierrez**  
**Thomas A. Haas**  
**Veldie L. Hubbard**  
**Chad Hunke**

**Grant Jenkins**-Football 9.  
**Kara Kienzynski**-HERO 11.  
**Ryan L. Kirk**  
**Charles J. Krueger**  
**Justin LaPlante**  
**Ashley Lake**  
**Victor Lopez**-Baseball 10, 11, 12; Class Officer 12; Football 9, 10, 11, 12; Wrestling 9.  
**Justin S. Lyons**  
**Janice Mayer**-HERO 11, 12; Office Aide 12.  
**Agnieszka Mochon**-BPA 12; Office Aide 12; Powder Puff 12.  
**Colleen C. Murphy**  
**Kyle Nagy**  
**Kimberly O'Neal**  
**Julie Ornelas**  
**Violeta Pecoski**  
**Sean Perry**  
**Anne Piske**  
**Jenika Redding**  
**Andrew Reyna**  
**Rosita L. Reyna**-Poms 9.  
**Christine Robella**  
**Shawn Rodriguez**  
**Joanne Samuel**-Academic Decathlon 11, 12; Art Club 12; Key Club 10; Officer 11; MCATF 10, 11, 12; Quiz Bowl 11, 12; Revue 10, 11; Science Olympiad 11, 12; Spanish Club 10, 11, 12; Speech 9, 10, 11, 12; Spell Bowl 11, 12; SAC 12; Super Bowl 12.

**Manjula S. Samuel**-Academic Decathlon 12; Creative Writing Club 10; Key Club 9, 10; NHS 11, 12; NJHS 9, 10; Revue 10, 11; Science Olympiad 12; Spanish Club 10, 11; Speech 9, 10, 11, 12; Super Bowl 11, 12.  
**Michael Alan Schmid**  
**Byron M. Shea**-German Club 9, 10, 11, 12; Golf 9, 10, 11, 12; JETS 9, 10, 11, 12; NJHS 11, 12; SAC 9.  
**Eric C. Sheridan**  
**Brian Shultz**-Games Club 10, 11, 12; Plantarium Aide 9, 12.  
**Nicole M. Spurgeon**  
**Lisa Stanchina**-PHA 11; HERO 12; Choir 9.  
**Kaci M. Stephens**  
**Kenneth Swan**-Wrestling 9, 10, 11, 12.  
**Brandie L. Swisher**  
**Chakeba C. Tindal**  
**Cornell Tucker**-Track 9, 10, 11.  
**Christopher VanTil**  
**Aaron D. Vanderwarf**-Teacher's Aide 12.  
**Cory D. Veal**  
**Latrice Washington**-HERO 12.  
**Stephanie Washington**-Band 10, 11; Drama 10; Swimming 9.  
**Robert J. Watson**-Office Aide 9, 12; Spring Play 9; Unified Basketball 9, 10, 11.

# CHEERS TO ALL



Farsbaugh Photo

She's friendly, she's funny, she's outgoing. She's a "people-person." She's Kimberly Sue Gutierrez, '94.

Much of Gutierrez's time is devoted to her family, friends, and boyfriend. She is a varsity cheerleader, and she used to participate in gymnastics. She says, "I like gymnastics, and I'm still friends with my old team. I try to make it to some of the meets to cheer them on."

In school and at home, Gutierrez is always trying to cheer people up and "make them laugh. Everything seems better if you're laughing. Her friends say that "she can find humor in any situation, but she also knows

when to be serious. She's more of what I do and how I act, not what I say. Sometimes I don't try to be funny, but people laugh. I don't let it bother me though, I guess they're laughing with me, not at me!" -by Sara Nicholls

As far as special talents are concerned, Gutierrez feels that hers are "talking and laughing." Her friends definitely agree.

After high school Gutierrez plans to attend Purdue University in West Lafayette. Her family believes that she could make it as a comedian, but she doesn't agree. "I think it's more of what I do and how I act, not what I say. Sometimes I don't try to be funny, but people laugh. I don't let it bother me though, I guess they're laughing with me, not at me!" -by Sara Nicholls

**BIRTHDAY:**  
 SEPT. 13, 1975

**FAVORITE COLOR:**  
 BLUE

**FAVORITE FOOD:**  
 ANYTHING

**FAVORITE MOVIE:**  
 BEACHES

**FAVORITE SONG:**  
 SPACEBOY

**FAVORITE GROUP:**  
 SMASHING  
 PUMPKINS

**FAVORITE TV  
 SHOW:**  
 HOME  
 IMPROVEMENT

**FAVORITE SPORT:**  
 BASEBALL

**BUSTIN' A MOVE,**  
Cheryl Santos, '94, and  
her father enjoy an  
evening at the  
Mommy-Daddy Date  
night. The HERO class  
sponsored the annual  
event this year.



Bosenbark photo

**BIRTHDAY:**  
JULY 8, 1976

**FAVORITE  
GROUP:**  
SMASHING  
PUMPKINS

**FAVORITE SONG:**  
18 & LIFE

**FAVORITE SPORT:**  
TRACK

**FAVORITE  
MOVIE:**  
THE LOST BOYS

**FAVORITE TV  
SHOW:**  
SATURDAY  
NIGHT LIVE

**FAVORITE FOOD:**  
PIZZA

# HAPPY TO BE HERE

As you walk down the hallways of MHS, a sweet smile stands out in the crowd. With that sweet smile comes a shining personality, and an easy going person with a great sense of humor. A person you can count on for anything. Jenny Herbert is that person, who came here from a small school her freshmen year, attending Pierce Junior High. Herbert is an outgoing person involved in track and basketball. When it comes to academics, Herbert's interest is in classes such as math analysis, advance composition, ceramics, and physics.

Herbert feels that it is important to keep academic and sports life separate because, "If you mix the two, your grades drop and so does your playing

ability. It makes it too hard to mix the two."

Academics are important to Herbert because "my academics are the most important thing to me. Without good grades I won't get into college. I feel that academics should always come first."

Sports also mean a lot to Herbert. She enjoys basketball and track, "I love basketball because it's fast paced and physical, where track is an individual sport. I'm the one who wins or loses it," says Herbert.

After high school she plans to go to Indiana University and go into physical therapy. Her senior year is important to her, and she would like to be remembered for as "Someone who gets along with everyone."

• by Michelle Borman





Rowe Photo

**GOING FOR THE GOLD.** Geoff Gronowski, '94, prepares to shoot during the homecoming game. This year's theme was "Dice the Slicers."



Forabough photo

**ANDREA WIRTZ, MEG Liebenthal, and Jon Lambert, all '94, visit with each other outside of Pierce Middle School prior to the Spirit Week's annual powder puff football game and pep rally.**

**TIFFANYALBEE, '94, WAS crowned queen right after Sean O'Hara, '94, was named the senior guy with the hottest legs.**



Forabough photo

**PARENTS' NIGHT NOT** only brought out the football player's parents, but trainer Robin Phillips, '94, also was honored prior to the MHS vs. Chesterton football game on September 3.



Rowe photo

**PRACTICING FOR THE** concert, Jody Balcerak, '94, and Brian Phillips, '97, go over their lines in the choir's Christmas production of "One Magic Christmas." Balcerak and Phillips both are members of the choir's Vocalteens.



Evans photo

**BIRTHDAY:**  
OCT. 26, 1976

**FAVORITE  
COLOR:**  
RED

**FAVORITE  
SPORTS TEAM:**  
WHITE SOX

**FAVORITE  
SINGER:**  
ELVIS PRESLEY

**FAVORITE  
MUSICAL  
GROUP:**  
THE WHO

**FAVORITE  
ATHLETE:**  
CARLTON FISK

# THE KING IS DEAD?

Opinionated, outgoing, and humorous are just a few words that can describe Erick Vertucci, '94. Vertucci, as diversified as anyone, is more than meets the eye.

Vertucci transferred to the Merrillville School System in the ninth grade from Hammond. Due to the different age requirements at Hammond, he is as much as a year younger than many of his fellow seniors.

The 50's, 60's, and 70's have had a huge influence over Vertucci. "Elvis was the King," he says about his favorite singer, Elvis Presley. Also coming from the three decades are his favorite group, The Who, and his favorite movie, *Rebel Without a Cause*.

In his spare time Vertucci enjoys mountain biking, fishing and watching old movies from the 50's. A huge White Sox fan, he also enjoys sports, football being his favorite. The legendary Carlton Fisk is his favorite sports figure.

Vertucci has set his sights high for the future, literally. His plans after high school include either enlisting in the Air Force or attending college. He hopes to study marine biology or dentistry as a career choice.

During his classes Vertucci often makes comedic remarks about what is going on, and he admits that he is often the only one to laugh at them.

**-by Tom Gayda**







Farabough photo

#### ATTENDING PROM

was definitely an experience for exchange student Agnes Mochon, '94. Mochon from Poland, along with Fernanda Romero from Ecuador, and Ombeline Munier from France, all had the chance to try out life in the U.S. for a while.

#### IT'S WORTH IT

to Robin Phillips, '94, as she accepts her diploma from Dr. Anthony Lux. Lux presented the diploma due to Dr. Robert Schrenker's unavoidable absence.



# LEADER ON THE LOOSE



Her resilient smile, and friendly laugh can be seen and heard all over the halls of MHS. Her name is Abigail Igarta, but she prefers to be called Abbie. Since she is involved in many activities here, she is known by many as a friend. Igarta is a senior, and some of the activities that are important to her have included Student Government, Speech team, and National Honor Society.

Igarta considers her best qualities to be, "My honesty and my sensitivity, because they enable me to relate well to others' feelings."

"I'm the daughter of very strict Philippine born parents, who pressure me very much when it comes to being the very best." Her Americanized ideals differ greatly from those of her parents', and sometimes cause conflicts.

In her free time, Igarta likes to

play the piano to relieve stress, sing, read poetry, and be with her friends, because she is such a people-person.

Igarta's favorite teacher is Max Hutchison, math teacher, because, "he is the first math teacher who really challenged me." She was especially motivated in his class because, as she says, "he would embarrass me, and make me feel crunchy in front of the class, so I wanted to be right so he couldn't."

Another teacher who has been very influential in Igarta's life overall is Mike Zolfo. Zolfo "has not only been my teacher, coach, and class sponsor, but he has also been my friend. He taught me how to get to know myself, and that disappointment builds character. Well, boy, I guess that I must have a lot of character now!!!!" finishes Igarta.

-by Rachel Torres

#### BIRTHDAY:

JULY 19, 1976

#### FAVORITE COLOR:

NAVY BLUE

#### FAVORITE FOOD:

CHINESE

#### FAVORITE MOVIE:

BODYGUARD

#### FAVORITE PERFORMER:

WHITNEY HOUSTON

#### FAVORITE SPORT:

BASKETBALL

# 1995 Juniors

Judy Adams  
Michael Adams  
Thad Agee  
Kimberly Anderson  
Jamie Aubin  
Erica Azpettia  
Draga Babic



Eric Baden  
Manica Baez  
Travis Bainbridge  
Robert Baldazo  
Samuel Barnett  
Dawn Barrick  
Jamie Barochowski



Jamie Bartz  
John Beckwith  
David Beller  
Joan Berk  
Bradford Bernard  
Jennifer Bewley  
Frances Biancardi



Brian Bice  
Vanessa Bielowski  
Erick Black  
Chennetta Blacknell  
Chelsie Blackwell  
Jaime Blanca  
Stephen Bobos



Shelly Boedecker  
Thomas Bolden  
Stacey Bandra  
Donny Barman  
Kellie Bosentark  
Donny Boyd  
Michelle Braden



Melissa Breedan  
Steven Breedan  
Richard Brodner  
Yolanda Brown  
Sara Bruner  
Dawn Buchka  
Gina Budzevski



Shannon Bukovac  
Jamie Bunch  
Kathleen Cannon  
Tina Castellanos  
Christina Celakaski  
Jason Chandler  
Jamie Childress



Micheal Churilla  
Steve Cichy  
Mike Clark  
Jerry Coates  
Warren Conner  
Angela Corea  
Samantha Corigan





Kelly Coughlin  
Adam Gracsbaurm  
Nicole Cross  
Eric Culp  
Michael Curiel  
Amy Cyphert  
Jennifer Dainton

Daniela Danjanoski  
James Daniels  
Robert Daumer  
Albert Davila  
Benjamin De Leon  
Kevin De Young  
Jesus Del Real

Kellee Derico  
Milan Dezelich  
Summer Dicken  
Lisa Dimitroff  
Jeffrey Dobbs  
Kyle Dobieski  
Melissa Dobs

Karl Dambrowsky  
Orley Dossima  
Jonathan Drake  
Jennifer Duplaga  
Ryan Dykstra  
Deidre Elzondo  
Angela Elliott

# A CHANGE FOR THE BETTER



Geruska Photo

At least that's the way Mike Churilla, '95, thinks about transferring from Andean to MHS. The change he made would be a difficult one for most, but some of the reasons Churilla moved made it a little easier to do. His move to MHS was more a move away from Andean.

After attending the predominantly Catholic school for two years, and wanting to leave for one of them, Churilla finally thought it was time. Churilla was attracted to MHS initially because of its athletic program. Through junior high he was a dominant basketball player, and he was recruited by Andean's coaches. As a freshman, he competed at the varsity level only in track, but he was preparing for playing both football and basketball the next year. When the next year showed up, Churilla wasn't playing as he thought he would. He attributes the reason he didn't play to the fact that the school's sports system was run politically.

He might have had the ability, but apparently he didn't have the name. He moved to MHS in hopes of having a fair chance of making some of the sports teams, even though IHSA laws will force him to forfeit varsity eligibility for one year because of the transfer. He is now in the process of appealing the law.

Athletics, however, wasn't the only reason he wanted to change schools. He said the real reason was, "I thought [MHS] would be a better school academically," and that, "Andean was run-down, and Merrillville had better facilities."

The hardest part about leaving Andean was leaving his friends behind. But, friends were some of the things that drew him to Merrillville. A lot of kids he went to grade school with are now at MHS, so when Mike transferred he really wasn't the "new kid." He feels that he really fits into the way things work at Merrillville High School.

- by Jon Rowe

**BIRTHDAY:**  
MAY 9, 1976

**FAVORITE MUSIC GROUP:**  
PEARL JAM

**FAVORITE MOVIE:**  
STAR WARS

**FAVORITE CLASS:**  
LUNCH

**FAVORITE SPORT:**  
TRACK

**FAVORITE CARTOON CHARACTER:**  
MARVIN THE MARTIAN

Matt Ellis  
 Kevin Emy  
 Yvonne Escott  
 Teleda Ezell  
 Jason Faldzinski  
 Jaime Fantin  
 Patrick Farabaugh

Tashi Farmer  
 Brett Fedak  
 Sarah Fellinski  
 Jessica Figueroa  
 Gregory Fleming  
 Matthew Florer  
 Mindy Foley

Leeanne Forbes  
 Kathryn Foreman  
 Lalaya Francis  
 Dean Frangos  
 Marilena Frangos  
 Susan Frenchik  
 Carlos Frevert

Leah Frink  
 Cynthia Frost  
 Aleksandar Galic  
 Simonette Galia  
 Sergio Galvan  
 Cynthia Garcia  
 Raquel Garcia



**BIRTHDAY :**  
 JULY 29, 1977

**FAVORITE COLOR:**  
 GREEN

**FAVORITE FOOD:**  
 SPAGHETTI

**FAVORITE SONG:**  
 ALWAYS AND  
 FOREVER

**FAVORITE SPORT:**  
 BASKETBALL

**FAVORITE HOBBY:**  
 PIANO

**FAVORITE TV  
 SHOW:**  
 FRESH PRINCE

**FAVORITE MOVIE:**  
 POETIC JUSTICE

# PLAYING AROUND FOR FUN

As you walk down a certain street in the Turkey Creek subdivision, you are able to hear the sound of beautiful, flowing music. Who's house are you passing? Samantha Corrigan's, '95. She has been playing the piano since she was seven years-old and travels to Hammond once a week for lessons.

Corrigan played in last year's Revue, won a gold in the ISSMA solo contest in junior high, and has played at the Radisson Star Plaza.

Corrigan comes from a large family and has four sets of grandparents! Her immediate family consists of her mother, stepfather, and two brothers, Brian, 21 years-old, and

Alexander, 5 months.

Corrigan is also very athletic, although she does not participate in a particular sport. She loves to run and went to conditioning for cross country so that she had more of an opportunity to do so. Corrigan went out for the tennis team and is very excited about the upcoming season.

Corrigan is a die-hard Notre Dame fan and has enjoyed going to a few games. She also loves cats and has a male cat named Spaz. Corrigan is an extremely cheerful person with a wonderful personality. Her smile could brighten anyone's day, and she is able to make almost anybody laugh. **-by Susan Frenchik**



Farabaugh Photo



# 1995 Juniors

Tommy Gasperson  
Amy Gerska  
Heather Gilbert  
Denise Gilbey  
Lena Griffian  
Jessica Ghemi  
Charles Goin

Cheryl Gonzalez  
Gloria Gonzalez  
Jennifer Gonzalez  
Patricia Good  
Amanda Gordon  
Daryl Gordon  
Gordana Gorgijovski

Melanie Gotch  
David Greenberg  
Lawrence Griffith  
Michael Guemsey  
Valerie Gutjahr  
Irene Halkias  
Melissa Ann Hall

Cheryl Hamilton  
Angela Harris  
Johnita Harris  
Marcus Harris  
Melinda Hatfield  
Kelly Hegedus  
Jason Heine

Carrie Heitmann  
Brian Hepburn  
Nicole Hart  
A'ithonda Hickerson  
Jessica Hodges  
Christine Hodgetts  
Brian Hagan

Laura Hostfeld  
Tina Huffman  
Joseph Hussey  
Mark Hylek  
Beth Irby  
Rhonda Jackson  
Erin Janovsky

Jeff Japkowski  
Christopher Jensen  
Cheryl John  
David Jones  
Jeannette Jones  
Mark Jones  
Michelle Jones

John Kadelak  
Anita Kajmakoski  
Cvetlana Kajmakoski  
Sarah Kendrick  
Kimberly Kenney  
Jason Kester  
Angela Kilgore

# 1995 Juniors

Damien Kirk  
Brad Kleivickas  
Jason Knight  
Bradley Kosac  
Colleen Kosmatka  
Suzana Kostur  
Mark Kratko

Steve Krstevski  
Trenton Krueger  
Caryn Krysa  
Andrew Kurowski  
Christopher La Rue  
Richard Lahart  
Erin Lalin

James Lash  
Angel Le Loup  
Shan-Hwei Lee  
Jeffery Leeper  
Daniel Letka  
Michelle Lenart  
Mark Lengyel

Tom Lepp  
Matt Lasnik  
Keith Lester  
Pherrin Lewis  
Philip Lewis  
Paul Liakos  
John Lindsey



**BIRTHDAY:**  
FEB. 20, 1977

**FAVORITE COLOR:**  
PURPLE

**FAVORITE FOOD:**  
PIZZA

**FAVORITE  
ACTIVITIES:**  
VISITING FRIENDS  
AND TRAVELING

**SELF-  
DESCRIPTION:**  
"I'M USUALLY  
A HAPPY  
UNSPOKEN PER-  
SON. I GUESS  
YOU COULD CALL  
ME A PERFEC-  
TIONIST. OH,  
I'M ALWAYS  
PUNCTUAL."

## TIME TO DEBATE THE ISSUES

The alarm goes off at six o'clock and the race has begun. This is the start of yet another busy day for LaToya Francis. From fixing her hair before school to debate practice after sixth period, Francis is probably one of the most interesting students at MHS.

Francis just may be one of the more verbal students here. By talking to her, a person may get the impression that she is outspoken. Surprise! That is no impression. That's reality! "I know I speak my mind freely, I think it helps people understand who the real LaToya Francis is," explains Francis.

When it comes to school, Francis is a top notch student. English teacher, Barbara Koby said, "LaToya Francis is one of the most

outgoing students I have. She is always prepared and really seems to have fun in my class."

After school it is time for Francis to go to debate practice. Here she can be found working with Nicole May, the debate coach, trying to dig up information or research facts that support her opinion. "It's true. Debate does take up most of my time, but when you get down to it, it's worth it," says Francis.

People come and people go, some go unnoticed while others definitely stand out in the crowd. Francis's personality and opinions definitely make her one of those who have made a difference at Merrillville High School.

- by Patrick Farabaugh



Farabaugh/Photo



Sara Litty  
Sarah Lockhart  
Joseph Loehmer  
Kristin Lucia  
Anthony Lux  
Richard Lyons  
Bernardo Madrinan



Jeremy Maiden  
Bianca Malave  
Nanette Malerich  
Laura Maness  
Brian Manning  
Jason Marais  
Cassandra Marsh



Christopher Martino  
Tonya Matrenee  
Emmanuel McCann  
Corey McDermott  
Kevin McGee  
Kevin McKay  
Rickey McMillan



Kevin Mehay  
Beth Meisler  
Philip Mendoza  
Karl Meyer  
Michael Mikesell  
Curtis Minchuk  
Michael Mitrevski



Lori Modglin  
Scott Malchan  
Megan Maloney  
Denise Moody  
Ralph Morales  
Leslie Mote  
Lawrence Murphy



Dusko Musikovski  
Matthew Navarro  
Katarina Nedeljkovic  
Riste Niceski  
Erin Niles  
Claude Nix  
Paulyn Nolasco



Kosta Nuses  
Kirche Obetkovski  
Robert Olejniczak  
Mandy Olejnik  
Joy Oliver  
Kirstin Olson  
Nick Orlich



Ben Ortegón  
Alexander Ortiz  
Vera Ostojic  
Jason Owen  
Tyson Owen  
Nancy Packovski  
Kathryn Pahl



# 1995 Juniors

Roshanta Parker  
Tracy Parker  
Ryan Parlock  
Mary Parsons  
Dessa Pavchevich  
Lucinda Paz  
Raymond Paz



Diondra Peck  
Shelley Penzato  
Gwendolyn Perkins  
Mary Perosky  
Eric Peterson  
Steven Peterson  
Pavle Petrovski



Elizabeth Piazza  
Amy Picard  
Dionne Plasencia  
Melissa Polen  
Daniel Plice  
Jennifer Rochford  
Kathleene Rais



Danielle Ramirez  
Eric Randolph  
Jennifer Randolph  
Tom Ratliff  
Kristopher Reberg  
Ryan Reithel  
Leann Richmond



Tricia Rietman  
Van Ristovski  
Sidney Rivera  
Kimmerly Robinson  
Aleisha Rodriguez  
Christopher Rodriguez  
Luciana Rodriguez



Ryan Rongers  
Brian Rose  
Jeff Rosko  
Lindsay Roth  
Jonathon Rowe  
Ernesto Santos  
Jason Savich



Kevin Schafer  
Mark Schwinn  
Lauren Scott  
Matt Sell  
Kristi Settlements  
Heather Seward  
Samantha Sherwood



John Shores  
Jonathon Shultz  
Thomas Shultz  
George Sievers  
Elizabeth Simunic  
Kevin Smith  
Latasha Smith







Kristen Sommers  
Jimmy Solirosi  
Jennifer Spitz  
Joel Springman  
Nicole St. Germain  
Sarah Stage  
Wesley Starick

Richard Stazinski  
Renata Stefanoski  
Melissa Steller  
Donna Stojasvjech  
Kristin Strawhun  
Robin Stupar  
Carrie Sullivan

Tina Sunny  
Jason Surtzjal  
Jeannette Svltko  
Justin Swartzentruber  
Steven Szot  
Lara Tamalunas  
Vesna Tanaskoski

Chad Tarry  
Rebecca Thieling  
Michael Thien  
Kenorsherea Thompson  
Valentina Todoroska  
Christopher Tomko  
Karen Tremmel

# LIVING LIFE WITH ATTITUDE

She's the kid who is always the class clown, the kid who sits in the back row who has an attitude that nobody is going to mess with, and the person who is always responsible but can have fun at the same time. A'Rhonda Hickerson, '95, is one of those personalities with an attitude that make MHS diverse. She does what any typical high school student would do, but what she does, she does with an attitude.

Hickerson was born on September 16, 1977. "The attitude comes with the birthday," she says. When Hickerson steps on the bus, it begins. She says, "I get grouchy and stay grouchy until the music wakes me up." She listens to the music the bus driver plays, and that gets her back to normal.

When she hangs out with her friends, she says that they like to "be legit." She and her friends

also like to "jive on each other." When Hickerson has had enough though, she raises a hand as if to say STOP and says, "You're dismissed."

If there is anything that Hickerson misses the most at home, it is her brother, '93 graduate Antwand. He recently left for college in Iowa, and she misses "messaging with him," she says. Hickerson says, "I love him very much and I can't wait to go and see him because I haven't seen him since he left. The only thing that I won't do is cry. I did that the day he left for college."

Hickerson also plans on going to college far away, probably in Maryland. She wants to study to become a veterinarian. When she graduates, she wants to be remembered "by my height, my down-to-earth personality, and the fact that my locker never opened." -by Tina Yurechko

**BIRTHDAY**  
SEPT. 16, 1997

**EYES:**  
BROWN

**HAIR:**  
BROWN

**FAVORITE FOOD:**  
FISH

**FAVORITE COLOR:**  
RED, BLACK,  
WHITE

**FAVORITE MUSIC:**  
RAP AND R&B

**FAVORITE TEACHER:**  
MR. KOBZA AND  
MRS. LAIN



Bonafide Photo

Brian Trivette  
Viado Trpeski  
Tanjaree Turner  
Maryann Vale  
Amanda Van Dusseldorp  
Diana Van Dusseldorp  
Nikki Van Til



Gary Van Volkenburgh  
Bernadette Vargas  
Scott Vargo  
Andrea Vasos  
Jennifer Vega  
Nadia Venegas  
Michelle Verblak



James Vermillion  
Carlos Villanueva  
Vanessa Virgo  
Abigail Vivo  
Brandi Vucko  
Christopher Vukin  
David Wala



Erica Wala  
Kelly Walters  
Lakeshia Warnley  
Marcy Wells  
Jeremiah Wells  
Adam Welzien  
Bernetta Wellins



**BIRTHDAY:**  
JUNE 25, 1977

**HAIR:**  
BROWN

**FAVORITE COLOR:**  
PURPLE

**FAVORITE FOOD :**  
LASAGNA

**FAVORITE MOVIE:**  
LAST BOY SCOUT

**FAVORITE TV  
SHOW:**  
SEINFELD

**FAVORITE SPORT:**  
FOOTBALL

# MARCHING TO A DIFFERENT DRUMMER

Personalities among students sometimes conflict, while others go together like "birds of a feather." There is one who is unique, one who considers himself different from the rest. His name is Jon Shultz, '95. He says that the two words that best describe him are "different and unpredictable, because I don't like to conform to standards and you can't tell what I'll say next." Shultz's activities include "VocalTeens, playing football, and running track."

His friends would describe him as "a fun guy to be around and someone who likes to joke about a lot of things."

Shultz has his fun moments, along with his most embarrassing moments. He says that one of his embarrassing moments was "playing on the Saint Peter and Paul basketball team

against my own school. We lost 40 to 22. I was so embarrassed, I didn't want to show my face at school for quite some time."

Shultz is full of special talents. He says, "I can drive and handle a 1977 Ford LTD II." Whenever he gets stressed out, Shultz says that his favorite way to relax is "sippin' tea in a Lazy-Boy."

He has favorites in everything he does. ("My favorite color is purple, my favorite sport is football, my favorite teacher is Mr. Emig, and my favorite sports figure is Mike Singletary.")

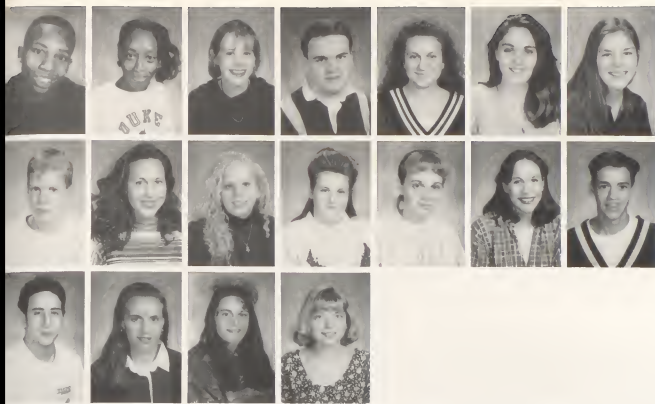
He has already planned for his future, unlike some of the other people in his class. "I am going to college, getting married, and taking up a career as a computer programmer."

- by Angee Elliott



Evans Photo

# 1995 Juniors



Dante Williams  
Telkessa Williams  
Amy Winter  
Michael Wisniewski  
Laurie Wojtowicz  
Erica Wald  
Jennifer Wood

Joseph Wotell  
Erika Vambrisk  
Vanessa Yaros  
Lisa York  
Misty York  
Alisa Zak  
Terry Zapinski

Nick Zaronias  
Bridgette Zellers  
Susan Zikel  
Julia Zolondz

## NOT PICTURED

Arthur Aguilera  
Jennifer Bank  
Ian Barnett  
Paul Brooks  
Jerry Bugg  
Donald Cole  
Jacqueline Davis  
Felicia Diaz  
Tamika Gaines  
Gabriela Garcia  
Shawn Garcia  
David Gonzales  
Michael Guzman  
Quincy Hall  
Kimberly Hardrick

Demetrius Harkness  
Daniel Harvey  
Brian Hicks  
Ayanna Jefferson  
Charletta Jones  
SheRai Latimer  
Bijana Makarovska  
Tobias Meux  
Shawn Miller  
Katerina Nedeljkovic  
Sarah Orgon  
Adam Rausei  
Kimberly Robinson  
Isaac Matthew Rosado



Evans Photo



Geruska Photo

**ROSHANTA PARKER, '95,**  
devotes her lunch period to  
selling balloons for Valentine's  
Day. FHA members delivered  
the balloons during homeroom  
on Valentine's Day.

**TYSON OWEN AND  
Brad Kosac, both '95,** converse  
about U.S. history in their social  
studies class taught by Mary Ann  
Galanis. All juniors are required  
to take a semester of U.S.  
history.

# 1996

## Sophomores

Steve Adams  
Jason Adler  
Staci Ahrens  
Kevin Albers  
Michelle Alcala  
Amber Allen  
Amy Armstrong



Sam Bairaktaris  
Anthony Bana  
Scott Bane  
Rebecca Banzen  
Todor Baric  
Bryan Barker  
Dustin Paul Barnett



Gregory Bascom  
Anthony Baskin  
Robert Becker  
Kylie Bedore  
Andrew Belush  
Becky Berdine  
Lisa Beres



Joel Binkley  
Joey Bish  
Carmen Bonilla  
Randy Brant  
Brian Bratcher  
Sean Briggs  
Teresa Briggs



Erica Brown  
Matthew Brown  
Ryan Brown  
Tomisha Brown  
Tyrone Brown  
Sean Buck  
Roy Buckley



Stephanie Budzinski  
Anthony Bulanda  
Nicole Bulkowski  
Victoria Burdett  
Bernard Burke  
Bryan Burns  
Sarah Burt



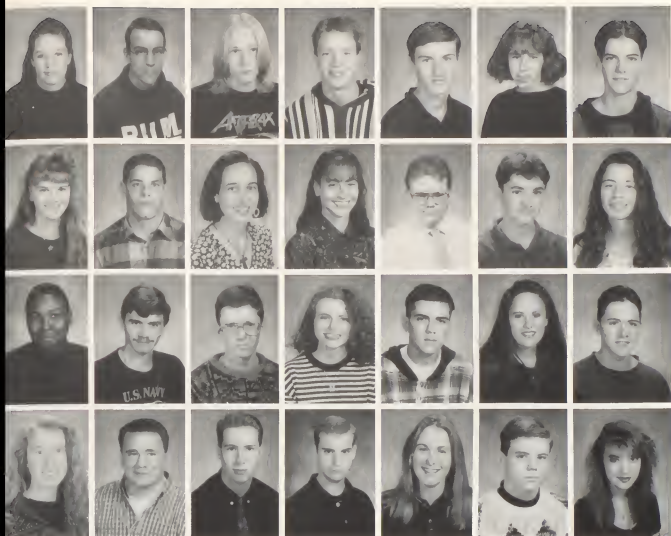
Jeffery Byrd  
Angelica Camacho  
Patricia Cantrell  
Andrea Cardenas  
Leslie Carberg  
David Casteel  
Briana Castle



Jennifer Celms  
Chris Christoff  
Charles Chung  
Stephanie Clady  
Ryan Cimbaljevich  
Roy Clay  
Joseph Clemens







Andrea Coates  
Ryan Colburn  
Shawn Cole  
Richard Cooper  
Andrew Crane  
Erin Crawford  
Thomas Cseke

Rebecca Dancy  
Christopher De Mure  
Amy De Nardo  
Ann De Nardo  
Brian De Young  
Richard Deel  
Angela Demaree

Damon Derlo  
Peter Dittoe  
Bryan Dixon  
Venesa Doneski  
Robert Doneski  
Jennifer Draper  
Douglas Durham

Michelle Duvall  
Jason Dzunda  
David Eaton  
Robert Eaton  
Sarah Edwards  
James Elenz  
Rachel Elliott

# LOOKING PAST THE STEREOTYPES



Farabaugh Photo

"I'm just myself. I don't try to be anyone special. I really don't like it when people try to alter there own personality just to try and impress a certain peer group," says Morgan Gray '96.

It really does take something special though, to get people to listen. Gray must have that special something, too. Whenever she talks, people listen, not just because of her good looks, but for her brain as well.

There are many different ways that a person can view Gray. The most obvious one is her eclectic personality. If someone was to pass her in the halls, they would probably look at her as if she is a rebel. Those who have gotten to know her have found out otherwise. Gray is outgoing with many interesting features.

"Many people are too narrow minded. They need to free their mind and learn to look past stere-

reotypes. It is those stupid stereotypes that prevent people as a whole from being able to accept each other," Gray said.

Between going places and spending time with friends, Gray finds time to be a part of the MHS swimming and diving team. "Before I started this year it was almost as if I didn't even have a season. It just seemed as if this was not going to be Merrillville's year," commented Gray.

There are many perspectives to Gray, but when it comes down to it, the only way for a person to really get to know her is to take the time to meet her. Gray is planning on going to Indiana University in Bloomington for two years, and then to New York or California for her masters, in interior architectural design, or in fashion design. - **by David Evans and Patrick Farabaugh**

**BIRTHDAY**  
SEPT. 17, 1977

**EYES:**  
HAZEL

**HAIR:**  
SANDY BLONDE

**FAVORITE MOVIE:**  
*BREAKFAST CLUB*

**FAVORITE BAND:**  
NITZEREBB,  
SMASHING  
PUMPKINS

**FAVORITE SPORT:**  
DIVING

**FAVORITE TEACHER:**  
MS. SPIRO

Janelle Renee Elliott  
Richard Escobedo  
Rilee Evans  
Trelles Evans  
William Fairbairn  
Tony Ferguson  
Roger Fleming

Elizabeth Flores  
Robert Flores  
Sarah Folz  
Eric Forster  
Joseph Foster  
Dawn Fox  
Paul Francis

Martin Franco  
John Franz  
Melissa Freeman  
Jennifer Gabriel  
Dave Gabrys  
Lori Garbus  
Juan Garfas

Christina Gargano  
Gerardo Garza  
Teresa Garza  
David Gearhart  
Eric Gill  
Melissa Glorioso  
Zach Goetz



**BIRTHDAY:**  
MAY 16, 1978

**FAVORITE TV  
SHOW:**  
MARTIN

**FAVORITE  
MOVIE:**  
MENECE II  
SOCIETY

**FAVORITE  
GROUP:**  
TWO PAC

**FAVORITE  
TEACHER:**  
MS. DUST

**FAVORITE  
SPORTS:**  
BASKETBALL  
AND TRACK

# SCHOOLING PROVES UNIQUE FROM SIBLINGS

From home to home and school to school, this kid has seen it all. Clifford Hughes, '96, has lived in different houses and attended two other school corporations before moving to the Merrillville area. He is looking forward to attending almost three full years in this newly renovated school. Hughes thinks the sports and extra curricular facilities are something to be proud of, but that the classroom atmospheres are still missing that special touch. "I don't know, I can't quite place it. I guess even the 'perfect' classrooms aren't good enough to let students forget about the grueling assignments and routines they are faced with everyday!"

Hughes feels his schooling years have been unique. Unlike C. Hughes, the other three Hughes children have had at least one year at a school without the company of a sibling. "Like any situation, there are advantages

and disadvantages. I don't mind going to school with them because Tori looks out for me and I look out for Latol, but I can't get away with anything because they always know what I'm up to and when I'm trying to scam!"

Hughes enjoys playing basketball and running track and has always dreamed of playing for the Boston Celtics. When he's not busy with sports or school, Hughes is tagging along with Tori and the older guys. "Don't get me wrong," explains Hughes, "I have friends of my own and all, but I've always looked up to Tori; so if he's gonna' let me hang out with him, then I will!"

Hughes has many ideas and interests that he prefers to keep to himself. He is not shy though, he's very outgoing and feels that everyone needs to express themselves clearly and not be bashful.

- by Sara Nicholls



Rowe Photo

# 1996 Sophomores



Rey Gomez  
Kara Gonzalez  
Morgan Gray  
Joshua Gross  
Stevie Gruewski  
Nicole Guemsey  
Alicia Gunn



Kelley Gut  
Robert Gutierrez  
Barbie Guy  
Tina Guzik  
Steven Guzman  
Matthew Habrych  
Erica Hall



Garry Hamilton  
David Hammer  
Gina Hampton  
Michael Hampton  
Joanna Harbrecht  
Jill Harns  
David Harvey



Jason Hastings  
Christopher Hathaway  
Kara Hazi  
Robert Heath  
Jeff Hendricks  
Clint Henry  
Erica Hlatt



Nick Hilborne  
Melissa Hilgeman  
Kurtis Hill  
Tanya Hill  
Timothy Holdeman  
Marc Holm  
Nikki Holm



James Hong  
Joseph Horst  
Jamie Hostfield  
Heather Householder  
Jason Hudcock  
Clifford Hughes  
Jeremy Hummel



Christopher Hutfitz  
Michelle Janiszewski  
Benjamin Jarvis  
Rhodena Jefferson  
Becky Jenkins  
Damon Jenkins  
Joseph Jenkins



Judy Jennings  
Jason Jezuit  
Martin Johnson  
Roger Johnson  
Michael Jonson  
Jason Joselyn  
Shannon Joselyn

# 1996 Sophomores

Eric Jastes  
Sreten Jovanovic  
Beth Jusko  
David Kamano  
Marie Kaminsky  
Lisa Kanouse  
Apostolis Karas



Sarah Kathcart  
Jessica Keehn  
Aubrey Kelley  
Harriette Kelly  
Deborah Kings  
Kimberly Kintz  
Janet Kiraly



Joshua Kirby  
David Kirklen  
Jennifer Klappack  
Amy Koczur  
William Koldus  
Robert Komar  
Jamie Komenda



David Kordys  
Michael Kastelnik  
Keith Krajewski  
Mekinda Krcoski  
Marty Kuntz  
Kevin Kuypers  
Kelly La Bonte



Aaron La Plante  
Dana La Rue  
Kenneth Lach  
Jeremiah Lagalo  
Corey Lake  
Joshua Larson  
Rick Larson



Ami Lash  
Henry Lech  
Scott Lee  
Angela Lehman  
Aaron Lewis  
Julie Lewis  
Nicholas Life



Michael Lindsey  
Max Liptak  
Timothy Little  
Kimberly Labody  
Jason Lockhart  
John Logothetis  
David Lopez



Sara Luttinen  
Bret Macaluso  
Beth Macy  
Marianne Maj  
Aaron Maierich  
Lisa Malo  
Jason Malocha







Paul Mandeh  
Melissa Manalovic  
Megan Manoski  
Nicholas Marchuk  
Michelle Marcum  
John Marelich  
Kristen Marier



Jonathan Marlow  
Phillip Martin  
Robert Martinez  
Sean McConnell  
Sean W. McConnell  
Melissa McCary  
Steven McFarland



Keith McIndoo  
Karen McKay  
William McKee  
Jaime McKenney  
William Mearna  
Amy Meisler  
Nicole Melic



James Melros  
Richard Mezo  
Julie Milak  
Brandon Millard  
Ryan Miller  
Sonya Mitchell  
Jason Mahoi



Kelli Moore  
Laura Morales  
Robert Moravec  
Maryann Munguia  
Chris Muxeski  
Linda Mysliwiec  
Scooty Mytyk



Brian Neely  
Brandon Nelson  
Claudia Neri  
Shaun Newman  
Kevin Newton  
Matt Nichols  
Harley Niles



Jennifer Nowak  
Erik Obregon  
Samuel Odisha Jr.  
Kimberly Onoff  
Carla Ortega  
Adam Orze  
Becky Paine



Maria Papadakis  
Brandon Papadatos  
Sarah Parduinn  
Michelle Parker  
Samantha Parker  
Brett Parks  
Lori Pavlapoulos

# 1996 Sophomores

Tanya Pawl  
Stephanie Peek  
Megan Pendley  
Christina Petersan  
Mario Petsalis  
Christine Pierce  
Hank Pimentel



Jasan Podgarski  
Melissa Potts  
Bridgette Praszchak  
April Pratscher  
Shella Presley  
Kevin Preus  
Jennifer Price



Rachel Price  
Ronda Price  
Joey Pustelnik  
Miraslav Radiceski  
Carmen Ramirez  
Bryan Ramas  
Jeffery Rangeloff



Anthony Reddx  
Jasan Reed  
Joey Reed  
Krystal Renehan  
Lynn Reyes  
Amanda Richardson  
Jason Rico



Dede Riddle  
Erica Rias  
Jason Rivera  
Michael Rivera  
Peter Rodriguez  
Amada Rosas  
Lindsay Rusch



Margaret Runian  
Pamela Ruschak  
Joseph Ryan  
Maggie Samsan  
Christopher Sanchez  
Jaime Santerama  
Kristen Santos



Brian Schiefer  
Travis Schmidt  
Bradley Schulte  
Jeremy Schwandt  
Bryan Scott  
Clifford Selmon  
Anthony Seitzak



Brennan Seydel  
Monica Shaffer  
Heather Shawver  
Aaron Shelton  
Soloman Shih  
Matthew Slicker  
Theresa Sievers



Corey Simmons  
Andrea Simpson  
Jason Simpson  
Carl Sims  
Melissa Skratsky  
Billy Smith  
Jaime Smith

Brian Snelson  
Amy Sopczk  
Eric Sowell  
Natalie Spetter  
Jill Stamate  
Tomas Stanione  
Angela Stapinski

Marino Stath  
Sandy Stefanoski  
Melissa Stefanoski  
Kenneth Stobaugh  
John Stomper  
Ilkka Suleski  
Cristy Summers

Matthew Sur  
Jared Tabor  
Amy Taylor  
Lisa Taylor  
Tracy Taylor  
Christy Tegman  
Aarthi Tejuja

**BIRTHDAY:**  
JANUARY 2, 1978

**EYES:**  
BROWN

**HAIR:**  
DARK BROWN

**FAVORTIE  
TEACHER:**  
MRS. ANDERSON

**FAVORITE  
SAYING:**  
"A PERSON'S  
GREATEST NEED  
IS TO FEEL AP-  
PRECIATED."

**FAVORITE  
ACTIVITY:**  
PLAY TENNIS

# SHIRTS ARE HER BUSINESS

Have you ever wondered where everyone is getting their sweatshirts? The Pom-Pons have theirs, you've seen student government's, and yearbook has theirs, too. Aarthi Tejuja enjoys making the sweatshirts, "because I want to go into business and I love making money."

In her spare time Tejuja enjoys playing tennis, talking on the telephone, shopping, reading, and taking pictures. She also enjoys traveling. Tejuja has already been to Jamaica, India, England, France, the Grand Canyon, Canada, and Mexico, and she would like to travel more.

As for plans for the future, Tejuja has not decided on one specific career because she feels that her mind might

change. She would like to go into business management because "I want to go into business and I love making money." However, she is also interested in law because "It would interest me and I like to argue a lot." Tejuja would like to take many business and law classes at MHS, "I know I would enjoy these types of classes as long as I have a good teacher!" Tejuja feels that psychology could be another possibility because she finds that to be interesting too.

Tejuja would like to learn more about photography. Although she has some experience in photography "I have taken photography 1 and 2 at MHS. I hope to make photography a hobby," says Tejuja.

- by Michelle Borman



Bochich Photo

Theresa Terry  
William Thomas  
Erin Thompson  
Kelly Thorn  
Kristine Todd  
Jessica Tokar  
Maria Trajkov



Matt Trajkovski  
Kristy Trock  
Angeline Turkaleski  
Michael Tyrikos  
Teddy Umphress  
Christina Underwood  
Kelly Urtoka



Ryan Valentine  
Lisa Van Berg  
Toula Vasilopoulos  
Marc Vassallo  
Mike Villanueva  
Nikola Vlahovic  
Jason Vlasic



Jason Vurva  
Nigel Walton  
Daniel Waskosky  
Jason Wayne  
Kelly Webster  
Scott Wellestat  
Sarah Wesley



**BIRTHDAY:**  
MARCH 10, 1978

**FAVORITE TV  
SHOW:**  
MELROSE PLACE

**FAVORITE MOVIE:**  
BACKDRAFT

**FAVORITE GROUP:**  
PEARL JAM

**FAVORITE CLASS:**  
MATH

**FAVORITE  
TEACHER:**  
MR. BERGESON

**FAVORITE SPORT:**  
TENNIS

**HOBBY:**  
SNORKELING

# DANCING THROUGH LIFE WITH A SMILE

The students of MHS are privileged to have on of the all time favorite *Sesame Street* characters roaming the hallways. That's right, Kristy Trock, '97, has been mistaken for "Guy Smiley" many times. You know him -- "the happy-go-lucky" friend of the *Sesame Street* clan. Trock is a spunky individual who always finds time to flash a smile and spread cheer.

Trock is involved in many activities, both in and out of school. She dances, snorkels, and performs on the pom-pom squad. She has been dancing since she was young and "I love it. I enjoy dancing altogether, but it's really great when I'm in a bad mood or if I need to pass the time."

Snorkeling is a unique hobby

to most of us. Trock loves the water and enjoys seeing the scenery. "I tried it a long time ago for the first time and I have always been anxious to do it. It is a very interesting hobby, and I wish I could find more people to come with me."

Trock, in her free time, enjoys hanging out with friends. She has two younger sisters so she remembers spending the "majority of my life babysitting. My sisters are older now, so I have a lot of time to myself. It's quite a relief."

After high school, Trock plans to attend college at either Purdue or Indiana University. As for right now, she plans to enjoy her time doing the things she enjoys most.

- by Sara Nicholls



Bondia Photo



# 1996 Sophomores

Corey West  
Tammie White  
Paxton Williams  
Samantha Williams  
Terrance Williamson  
Janie Lynn Wilson  
Roger Lyle Wilson

Megan Wojciechowski  
Damian Wood  
Alyssa Wright  
Angela Wusik  
Eric Youngren  
Jonathan Zukulansky  
Tanja Zdravetski

Rebecca Zaladz  
Christine Zarich

Willis Alexander  
Eric Boyer  
Christina Brucer  
Taray Bryant  
Jill Clark  
Michael Coleman  
April Cook  
Lomechia Cox  
Stephanie Dawson  
Tara Devine  
Jeffrey Fedorchak  
Jill Frye  
Raimey Galanos  
Kristyn Grace  
Mark Grubbs  
Shawn Gueyser  
Felipe Jones  
Kevin Keightley  
Richard Knight  
Tricia Kuhn

Danny Lewis  
Richard Looney  
Dave Maldonado  
AnnMarie Malec  
Keith Mashburn  
Jason Miller  
Alexander Neskoski  
Anna Popalazarou  
Lorance Plomaritis  
Bart Pruzin  
Karen Robelia  
David Serkowski  
Sean Stribbling  
Thomas Thompson  
Jameck Tolefree  
Waylong Upshaw  
Stepheni Wagner  
Christal Williams  
Jeffrey Zarink

## NOT PICTURED

**KARA GONZALEZ, '96**, takes advantage of a quiet moment to finish her homework for the next hour. Many students must use spare time to finish their homework because they spend their free time working or participating in extracurricular activities.



Bondra Photo

# 1997 Freshmen

David Almone  
Keith Albee  
Thomas Aliff  
Amber Allaman  
Twanna Allen  
Aaron Ammons  
Jessica Anderson



Ma'Ron Anderson  
Angela Andreatos  
Yasmin Aponte  
Frank Arambula  
Jamie Bailey  
Brad Balcerak  
Nick Balcerak



Matthew Banas  
Jody Bane  
Tim Banham  
Nathan Banks  
Ryan Barman  
Emily Barnett  
Christopher Barron



Tamara Beatty  
Amber Beck  
James Bergstrom  
Jennifer Berkman  
Christina Berry  
Angela Bertolo  
Lehman Best



Theodore Bewley  
Stacia Bish  
Cimmie Bishop  
Elisabeth Black  
Jovan Blacknell  
Valerie Bocumisa  
Andrew Bowden



Amber Braden  
Robert Branham  
Nicholas Brasovan  
Alycia Broda  
Melissa Brothers  
Jeremiah Brown  
Melinda Brown



Stacey Brown  
Valedyah Brown  
Marc Bruner  
Colleen Brzykcy  
Jeff Buchko  
Amanda Buda  
Christine Budzielek



Steven Bugg  
Kathryn Burdett  
Kristine Burke  
Robert Burkus  
Jason Byars  
Sarah Camery  
Chris Camisa





Ryan Campbell  
Robert Carlson  
Chris Ceslki  
Michael Ceslre  
Vesna Cesljar  
Larry Chandler  
Melanie Chandler

Corby Clark  
Matthew Clark  
Melissa Clark  
Robert Clark  
Jason Cochran  
Nicole Cole  
Randall Collins

Cara Colon  
Cherese Connolly  
Natalie Conner  
Alex Coppinger  
Michael Coughlin  
Abby Coulter  
Frank Courington

John Cox  
Ryan Creviston  
Cheo Cruz  
Stephan Dabney  
Kelly Dahlen  
Sonja Damjanoski  
Kira Davila

# ACTIVE FRESHMAN SETS HIGH GOALS



Farabaugh Photo

You may know her as the outspoken girl that sits behind you in English class. You may even know her as that silly girl who never stops kidding. But there is a side to Janell Deem that no one knows. The side that makes her unique is the side that also shows just how intelligent she really is!

"Not many people know how much I enjoy writing. When I write, I create my own world. Nothing can go wrong in that world either. If it does, all I have to do is erase it and make it right," comments Deem.

With so many good things about Deem, it is hard to try to limit her to just a few different topics. But one thing about her that stands out the most is her personality. Not only is she a very polite person, but she is also very easy to get along with.

This is one freshmen who has

really got it together! Deem is already the president of Merrillville High School's Pirate Posting. "It was really funny. I found out that I was president before I even knew that I was in it!" said Deem. But the truth is that Janell Deem has been on top of things all of her life. When it comes to academics, Deem is almost a straight A student.

School is one thing that Deem takes very seriously. "Sure I care about my classes and my grades. After all, the things that I do now are going to reflect on my future. If I can do well now, there is a pretty good chance that I'll have a very bright future. And that's what I really want!" comments Deem. There is one really good way to describe Janell Deem and her future, as Superman would say, "Up, Up, & Away!"

- by Patrick Farabaugh

**BIRTHDAY:**  
DEC. 10, 1978

**EYES:**  
GREEN

**HAIR:**  
LIGHT BROWN

**FAVORITE MOVIES:**  
*MIGHTY DUCKS,*  
*CUTTING EDGE,*  
*INDIAN SUMMER*

**FAVORITE SHOW:**  
*TALES FROM THE CRYPT*

**HOBBIES:**  
WRITING STORIES  
AND POEMS,  
PLAYING SPORTS,  
AND BEING WITH  
FRIENDS

Jamaal Davis  
Myesha Davis  
Ryan Davis  
Janell Deem  
Heather Dempsey  
Greg Denham  
Darin Derico



Chris Dimitroff  
Samantha Dimoff  
Megan Dixon  
Jamie Dabis  
Bogaja Doneski  
David Downs  
Susan Drabac



Brandon Dzunda  
Chris Eastlee  
James Elliott  
Alekia Emmonsolis  
Kevin Emmett  
Kyle Ensign  
Loretta Escamilla



Sonia Esparza  
Jennifer Essex  
Ashley Estes  
David Evans  
Frank Falardeau  
Michael Fantin  
Joseph Farley



**BIRTHDAY:**  
DEC. 16, 1978

**FAVORITE FOOD:**  
TACOS FROM  
TACO BELL

**FAVORITE COLOR:**  
BLACK

**FAVORITE SONG:**  
EYE OF THE  
TIGER

**FAVORITE MOVIE:**  
BLOODSPORT

**GOALS IN LIFE:**  
"TO ALWAYS  
FINISH"

**FAVORITE  
PASTTIME:**  
DANCING AT  
JUBILATIONS

# ONE STEP ABOVE THE REST

If people were to pass Jon Garcia at school, they would probably think he was just like every other freshman trying to make it through a typical MHS school day. However, Garcia possesses many qualities that allow him to shine above the rest. He enjoys going to Merrillville High because "it is a school that gives me many opportunities."

This school better believe that Garcia is going to take advantage of the many opportunities it has to offer and also to excel with their guidance. Not only does Garcia receive excellent grades in almost all of his classes when some sophomores and juniors have enough trouble trying to tackle these courses, but Garcia seems to be sailing along just fine despite the two year difference.

Not only does Garcia have a great academic record, but he participates in many types of

sports. He enjoys playing tennis and earned himself a position on the boys tennis team as a reserve. Garcia seems to be demolishing almost all of his opponents in the process.

"I like all sports, but I mostly like baseball, basketball, or any other contact sport." This would be pretty hard to believe if you look at him, considering he is only about five feet four inches tall. "Hey, I have plenty of time to grow," he said. His favorite professional athletes range from Michael Jordan to Bo Jackson.

He is the type of person who knows what he wants and will strive to get it. Garcia thinks that his personality is what makes him unique from other people.

"Some people tell me I'm confusing and others tell me I'm different. I like being both," Garcia concludes.

- by Kimberly Anderson



Evans Photo



# 1997 Freshmen

John Fashing  
Gina Fastera  
Ned Fedick  
Michael Ferja  
Michael Filan  
Marco Flores  
Michelle Flores

Karl Forester  
John Foster  
Dimitris Fresh  
Danny Frevert  
Brian Frey  
Sarah Frink  
Cheryl Frost

Ken Gabriel  
Cathy Gallimore  
Kristen Galvan  
Michelle Gamba  
Christina Ganga  
Jonathan Garcia  
Rene Garcia Jr.

Christopher Garner  
Kelly Garton  
Justin Gear  
Holly Gentry  
Kristie Gentry  
Angela Geruska  
James Gill

Joseph Giordano  
Stanko Gligic  
Lisa Goley  
Charles Gonzalez  
Deanna Gonzalez  
Edwin Gonzalez  
Nicholas Gonzalez

Jack Grund Jr.  
Juan Guajardo  
Elizabeth Guardiola  
Joseph Guardiola  
Audrey Gurtz  
Amy Gutierrez  
Jason Hac

Robert Halbe  
Frank Halcarz  
Nichole Hall  
Richard Hamilton  
David Hammer  
Eric Hanson  
John Harris

Annette Harness  
Brian Haussman  
Kendra Henderson  
Michael Hinn  
John Hilliker  
Barbara Hoagland  
Kathy Hodgetts

# 1997 Freshmen

Brittan Hoffman  
Michelle Hogan  
Donny Hollandsworth  
Mike Householder  
Angelo Howard  
Amy Howland  
Lafai Hughes



Crystal Hussey  
Kevin Hutnick  
Peter Ilievski  
Melissa Jachimowicz  
Steve Jacobs  
Kimberly Jachik  
Tiffany Januszewski



Karlanne Jalinek  
Kelley Jenkins  
Beatrice Johnson  
Jennifer Johnson  
Ricki Johnston  
Dymonta Jones  
Shannon Jones



Jackie Jorgensen  
Jeremy Joselyn  
Erin Jastes  
Sase Jovanaski  
Rebekah Jusko  
Niki Kalageras  
Kristen Kapanka



Paul Kasiak  
Maria Kassanis  
Emmanuel Kazonis  
David Keene  
David Kelsy  
Crystal Kempa  
Cynthia Kenney



Amanda Kirk  
Justin Kissinger  
Jim Klein  
Nemanja Kijalic  
Michael Kmetz  
Stephanie Knox  
John Koldus



Sandra Kolodziej  
Autumn Komisarick  
Brian Konicke  
Kyle Konja  
Daniel Kontos  
Lucas Kora  
Maegan Krisko



Michelle Krstevski  
Angela Krumme  
Alan Kustic  
Jamison Lackey  
Melissa Lair  
Angela Lamb  
Rebecca Lambert





Jason Leckl  
Paul Lee  
Shannon Lentz  
Jacqueline Lean  
Robert Lean  
Jennifer Lepley  
Jaime Levitt



Robert Lewis  
John Lind  
Hillary Lipp  
Heather Lahse  
Krisandra Lang  
Robert Lang  
Alvis Lucky Jr.



Richard Ludwig  
Heather Luedtke  
Marisa Luevana  
Justin Lyons  
Kristian Madayag  
Kristina Maiast  
Gregory Mallary



Matthew Malocha  
Lindsay Mandich  
Steven Manning  
Celeste Martinez  
Amanda Martus  
Eric Matheny  
Elisabeth Mauli



Rasheeda Maxwell  
Mark Mazany  
Michelle McAdoo  
Christina McCann  
Shaun McLain  
Kelly Meeks  
Lari Megyesi



Susan Meissler  
Michelle Mendez  
Joshua Mican  
Tiffany Mickey  
Joseph Mihal  
Guy Mikulich  
Violet Milic



Sarah Millsavjevich  
Angie Miller  
Christopher Miller  
John Miller  
Eric Mintan  
Mariah Mitchell  
Christopher Moes



Michael Montemayor  
Melba Montgomery  
Raymond Montgomery  
Nicole Moor  
Joseph Moore  
Christina Morales  
Carla Morality



# 1997 Freshmen

Jeffery Mortenson  
Natalie Mote  
George Murray  
Laura Murlough  
Nicole Myszkowski  
Michael Nalborczyk  
Rima Neely



James Nemcovic  
Stephanie Nicolini  
Joshua Niedzwicki  
Kelly Niezgoda  
Natalie Nimon  
Allan Nodd  
Christy Oh



Angela Oliver  
James Oliver  
Benjamin Olson  
Jacqueline Ortiz  
Montell Pace  
Melissa Paggi  
Brian Paine



Randolph Palmaleer  
Nicole Paniagua  
Devon Parker  
Philip Parker  
Jarmayl Pearson  
Julius Peasant  
Eli Pecosi



Jovce Pejaski  
Edwin Pekuyera  
Julianna Peppas  
Michelle Perez  
Dameion Perkins  
Kimberly Pero  
Shawn Peschke



Max Peterson  
Bryan Phillips  
April Pieroni  
Michael Pierson  
Shalaine Pinnell  
Brandon Pletka  
Courtney Pohalarz



Melissa Polonczyk  
Jennifer Pozniak  
Jennie Prgomelja  
Deanna Price  
Carolina Procter  
Bart Pruzin  
Mathew Putnam



Dustin Quenett  
Jennifer Ramos  
Crystal Ramsey  
Robert Rapchak  
Chad Raper  
Michael Rathburn  
Megan Reberg







Cesar Recio  
Britt Reese Jr.  
Ryan Remenius  
Jennifer Remmele  
Matthew Rich  
Mosselle Richards  
Jay Richardson

Wava Riddle  
Dejan Rielewski  
Michael Robbins  
LaMar Robinson  
Thirza Rodriguez  
Jessica Rogers  
June Rogers

Adam Rosaves  
Christina Rosenwinkel  
Angela Rossman  
Brian Roth  
Eric Rulsard  
DaVon Rumph  
Stephen Salcedo

Veronica Sanchez  
William Santelek  
Rita Satsangl  
Justin Savich  
Corey Saxton  
Karia Schell  
Mark Schreiner

# SINGER STRIVES FOR SUCCESS



Farabaugh Photo

The lights go down as the audience's applause roars through Reinhart auditorium. Freshman Bryan Phillips is then seen walking off stage after another one of his show stopping performances. This time Phillips brought the house down with his rendition of the Christmas song "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas."

"Did I do alright? How did I sound?" said Phillips as he tries to get the crowd's response to his performance. Not a single person could find a thing wrong with it. Instead, all that he received were overwhelming compliments from a very pleased group of people.

If there is one thing that Phillips can do better than anything else, it has to be singing. "Being a professional singer is my dream. I have been performing all my life!" said Phillips.

Phillips is one of the first freshmen ever to make it into the Merrillville High School choir's VocalTeens. "I'm so excited! Mr. Emig really has big plans for us this year. I can't wait!" Phillips said.

School is a whole different story for Phillips. "My first day of high school was probably the worst day of my life! I was so scared. I didn't know where I was going, or who I was going to. I even ended up in the wrong lunch hour!" Phillips said. "This school is a big step up from Harrison. Everything here is taken more seriously. You're responsible for much more here. But I love the freedom that goes along with it! It may have taken me a while to get used to these new responsibilities, but now I can't see how I have ever lived without them!" Phillips added.

- by Patrick Farabaugh

**BIRTHDAY:**  
NOV. 30, 1977

**FAVORITE COLOR:**  
GREEN

**FAVORITE GROUP:**  
QUEEN

**FAVORITE SONG:**  
PLAY THE SONG

**FAVORITE MOVIE:**  
RAISING CAIN

**FAVORITE FOOD:**  
STEAK

**FAVORITE SPORT:**  
DIVING

**FAVORITE ACTIVITY:**  
RIDING AROUND  
WITH FRIENDS

# 1997 Freshmen

Lisa Schwinn  
Sean Scott  
Amanda Szurko  
Sharon Segvich  
Kathryn Shapkaroff  
Stacey Shudick  
Nichole Shultz



Nathan Sickles  
Christopher Slick  
Jennifer Sills  
James Simandl  
Derek Simpson  
Maureen Skura  
Stephanie Sloan



Allen Smith  
Angelynn Smith  
Karin Smith  
Carrie Snow  
Amanda Sopko  
Marie Spiegla  
Jason Spinks



Jennifer Springman  
Heather Stanley  
Kevin Stazzone  
Michael Stath  
Joey Steeb  
Melinda Stelter  
Jeremie Stephens



Kellye Stephens  
Amy Stobaugh  
T.J. Stochel  
Michael Stupar  
Zdravko Suleski  
Terri Sullivan  
Amy Sut



Trisha Swanke  
Kimberly Swierc  
Jessica Swims  
John Szallier  
Susan Szal  
Tanya Taleff  
Adam Taylor



Felicia Taylor  
Lisa Taylor  
Sarah Taylor  
Lyndi Tegtmann  
Jeffery Thames  
Michael Thirus  
Dawn Thomas



Eric Thomas II  
Anthony Thompson  
Kendra Toefree  
Mark Torres  
Deanna Tracy  
Jennifer Trapone  
Katrina Triplet





Jennifer Trayer  
Stephanie Vaise  
Jeff Van Valkenburgh  
Douglas Vander Tuuk  
Eric Vargas  
Jessica Vargas  
Stacy Vasoli



Chris Velazquez  
Bobby Verbi  
Matt Villanueva  
Jeanine Visue  
Eugene Vivo  
Stamatis Vlahos  
Ruska Vraniskosi



Jennifer Yukin  
Emily Walla  
Shelly Wall  
Mike Waller  
Nicholas Wardell  
Delphine Wedding  
Nikki Weigel



Thomas Westbury  
Brandon Whitaker  
Kelly White  
Berinda Williams  
Deshawn Williams  
Stephanie Williams  
Jason Willson



Katie Willson  
Kathleen Wisniewski  
Jodi Yarnbrisk  
Jamie Young  
Kim Young  
Mario Zairis  
Elizabeth Zac



Joseph Zakutansky  
Lakisha Zanders  
Christopher Zervos  
Alexandra Zestanakis  
Robert Zimnawoda  
Paul Zolondz

**Not  
P  
ICTURED**

Suzanne Barrera  
Ryan Derico  
Douglas Eldridge  
Raul Esparza  
Maricela Garcia  
Dianne Gonzalez  
Derrick Hargrove  
Sarah Jensen  
Karolee Koonce  
Laura Krefft  
Nicole McDonald  
Francis McMullin

Anthony Ornales  
Max Pearson  
Javier Rosas  
Richard Sopko  
Maurice Sutton  
Gregg VanDusseldorp  
Michael Walker  
Shelly Walker  
Robert Wolf  
Clifton Woods  
Olivia Zdravski

# 1993-94

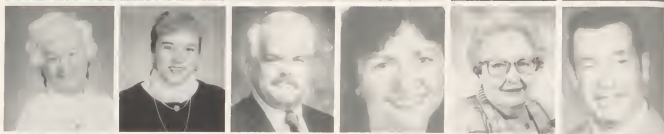
## Faculty

• Teachers' Name, years. In MCSC, subject taught, activities sponsored

•Paul Abernathy, 26, Math  
Beverly Ambrozick, 22, Business  
Janet Anderson, 13, Art  
William Angelidis, 5, Science  
Joe Africa, 13, Science, Girls Track  
Coach, Football Coach  
Beverly Bashla, Assistant Principal



Maryanne Battistini, 46, Guidance  
Patricia Beattie, 1, Special Ed.,  
Speech Coach  
Robert Bergeson, 12, Business/  
Computer, Softball Coach  
Mary Ann Bertram, 24, Spanish,  
Spanish Club  
Robbie Bothwell, 42, Business  
Lee Bottom, 16, Ind. Arts



Judith Chidsey, 10, English  
Linda Christoff, 16, Computer Lab  
Mary Clay, 7, Music, Band Director  
Jeffrey Clinkenbeard, 3, Science  
Kristen Corsaro, 2, Social Studies,  
Guard, Vocals  
Kenneth Coudrel, 5, Science, Track  
Coach, Football Coach



Lori Covaciu, 4, English  
Jacqueline Crons, 3, English,  
Creative Writing Club  
Steve DeVille, 4, Media  
Specialist, WMHS, Academic  
Decathlon  
Barbara Dlouhy, 4, Special Ed.  
Nancy Draper, 2, Math  
Miles Dunscombe, 26, Science



Lori Dust, 4, Physical Ed. Girls  
Basketball Coach  
Richard Ebler, 28, Social Studies  
Dee Edgcomb, 2, Guidance  
Jim Edgcomb, 28, Social Studies,  
Academic Teams  
Roger Emig, 15, Music  
Sharon Estes, 2, English



Cliff Fackler, 33, Math  
Tom Feeney, 26, Math  
Diane Firme, 25, English  
Maryann Foster, 8, Art, FEA  
Elizabeth Frasca, Media Center  
Linda Fry, 22, English



Drew Furunes, 16, Guidance  
MaryAnn Galanis, 26, Social Studies  
Rick Garner, 17, Ind. Arts  
Beth Given, 1, Math  
Ed Glick, 1, Physical Ed., Boys Swim  
Coach  
Sally Gradeless, 10, Math



Ray Hamilton, 19, German,  
German Club  
Tom Herbert, Assistant Principal  
Richard Hill, 25, Math  
Jan Hughes, 15, Business  
Richard Hurey, 13, Ind. Arts  
Max Hutchison, 36, Math







William Idzior, 11, Math  
Sherrin Izsak, Science, Athletic  
Trainer  
Christopher Joll, 5, Science,  
Wrestling Coach  
Jerrald Kasarda, 28, English, Guest  
Michelle King, 2, English, Speech  
Coach, Guard  
Barbara Kobay, 26, English, CTBS  
Lab

John Kobza, 24, Health  
Rosellen Kozel, Special Ed.,  
Student Government Adviser  
Mike Krutz, 8, Ind. Arts, Baseball  
Coach, Football Coach  
Michelle (Kurfman) Sulich,  
Special Ed., Key Club  
Maggie Laine, 24, Health, Guest  
Connie Lewis, 4, English, Writing  
Clinic

Sherman Lewis, 31, Guidance  
James Moko, 2, Ind. Arts  
Diane Mandon, 16, Social Studies  
Nicole May, 1, English, Debate  
Patricia McNally, 4, Special Ed.  
Mona Miller, 35, Physical Ed.

Sandy Miller, Special Ed.  
Joe Morrow, 31, English  
Patrick Mulloy, 17, Social Studies  
Dan Mullivill, 2, Wellness Director  
Jack Neuliep, 17, Science  
Marianne Oates, 2, Special Ed.,  
Poms Sponsor

# IT ALL ADDS UP



Forabough Photo

What drives an individual into teaching? Moreover, what drives an individual to want to teach math at the high school level? Linear equations, square roots and polynomials make most people cringe. Mary Shoshoo, math teacher, isn't most people.

Her reasons for teaching date back to her childhood.

"I think it all (wanting to teach) started when I had excellent teachers year after year as I was growing up. My admiration for them created my interest in the profession," says Shoshoo.

That may explain the desire to teach, but math as a subject is another story.

"As a student I had a very impressive math teacher. The logic and the problem solving

techniques intrigued me."

Before coming to MHS Shoshoo taught several years at Clifford Pierce Middle School, then a junior high. Along the path to MHS, she also taught the fourth grade and beginner's French.

Shoshoo admits she wasn't all that happy with some of her subjects in school.

"My toughest subjects were social studies and poetry. Both were taught from the angle of memorizing everything. I HATE TO MEMORIZE! I'd rather think and reason."

Finally, students who had Shoshoo at Pierce might recall the rumors of her being a professional lady wrestler. Her only reply to these allegations, "World Champion, of course!"

- by Tom Gayda

**BIRTHDAY:**  
FEBRUARY 7

**FAVORITE FOOD:**  
DALMA

**FAVORITE COLORS:**  
EARTH TONES

**FAVORITE TV SHOW:**  
ANY NEWS SHOW  
LIKE 20/20

**FAVORITE BOOK:**  
THE LITTLE PRINCE

**FAVORITE MOVIES:**  
CASABLANCA,  
ON GOLDEN  
POND, AND  
RIVERBOAT  
QUEEN

# 1993-94

## Faculty

\*Teacher's Name, years in MCSJ, subject taught, activities sponsored

Tom Peller, 9, Math, Basketball Coach  
Terry Pratt, 7, Art  
Bernadine Putz, Business  
Janis Qualizza, Athletic Director  
Geri Rainey, 17, Foreign Language  
Dr. Daniel C. Rapacz, 9, Principal

Jerauld Reinhart, Auditorium Director  
Shirley Renner, Guidance  
Wanda Rice, 2, Art  
Andrea Rybolt, 2, Science  
Bonnie Sanders, 23, Spanish  
Violet Schmuck, 11, Math

John Seale, 15, Ind. Arts  
Mary Shoshoo, 23, Math  
Don Slys, 21, Science  
Rosa Smith, 2, Study Hall, MCTAF  
Peggy Shelson, 1, Media Assistant  
Mary Lou Sproat, Director of Media Services

Maggie Stallings, 20, Home Ec.  
Jean Stanford, 2, English, Quilt and Scroll, Publications  
Evelyn Steiner, 6, Spanish, Spell Bowl  
Randy Stelter, 2, English, Basketball Coach  
Lyle Stoelling, 30, Social Studies, Games Club, MCATF  
Laura Stoner, 2, Home Ec.

Dave Teeter, 7, Ind. Arts  
Richard Terpstra, 20, English  
Barbara Timmerman, 6, Music  
Maxine Urbanczyk, Special Ed.  
Jim Vermillion, 35, Science, Basketball Coach  
Carol Von Behren, 24, Home Ec., FHA, HERO

K. Wilczynski, Special Ed.  
Madeline Wilson, 27, Spanish  
Rick Wimmer, B. Phys. Ed. Football  
Bruce Woods, 22, English, Academic Teams  
Jeff Yellon, 12, Science, Environmental Club, Football Coach  
Dave Zimmerman, 7, Business, Tennis Coach



Al Branda, 1, Math  
Charles Carroll, 23, Special Ed.  
James Dalley, 23, Ind. Arts  
James East, 14, Social Studies, Boys Basketball  
Mary Kary Jeffries, 34, Spanish  
Judy LeDuc, 18, Business, Business Professionals of America  
Rob Moore, 1, Social Studies, Intramural Sports  
Irene Spiro, 11, French, French club  
Michael Zolfo, 3, English, Speech Coach

# NOT P ICTURED



Farabaugh Photo

**REVIEWING HER** student's work, art teacher Maryann Foster points out the strong aspects of Tracy Parker's painting. Foster is the art department head and involved in many MHS activities.

# QUEEN OF THE HALL



Evans Photo

Rosa Smith is a familiar face seen in and around the classrooms of MHS. Her responsibilities include supervising the study halls, "to maintain an orderly area where the students may be quiet and have an area that is conducive to studying." During homeroom, Smith helps in the Student Services office. "Since I don't have a homeroom, I take that time to help down there."

Smith moved to Merrillville from California, and her youngest son, Erik now attending the Air Force Academy, attended Harrison Jr. High here. "During that time, I got involved in many parent groups like PTO." After her involvement in PTO, she decided to be a substitute. "I love being around young people, so I

wanted to start subbing."

After spending more time at MHS as a sub, Dr. Rapacz contacted her about being a member of the Multi-Cultural Awareness Task Force. "We pooled our ideas together, and this organization was formed."

Smith loves her job at MHS because, as she says, "I like the constant interaction with the students. I consider my ability to get along well with others to be an important quality to have when dealing with students."

In her free time, Smith likes to, "read, shop, attend plays and movies."

In terms of Smith's activities at MHS, Smith likes students to see her as a positive role model, and concludes that, "I would even do this for free!"

- by Rachel Torres

**FAVORITE COLOR:**  
WHITE

**FAVORITE FOOD:**  
SHRIMP

**FAVORITE ACTOR:**  
DENZEL  
WASHINGTON

**FAVORITE ACTRESS:**  
CICELY TYSON

**FAVORITE MOVIE:**  
*MY FAIR LADY*

**FAVORITE TV SHOW:**  
*OPRAH*

**FAVORITE SONG:**  
TILL

**PET PEEVE:**  
LYING

## 1993-94 Administration



### BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

Mark Lucas; L. J. Crist, Vice President; Arthur T. Collins, President; Donna Stath, Secretary; Bryant J. Matthews. Not Pictured Dale Brooks.



### ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Tony Lux, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction; Dr. Robert Schrenker, Superintendent of Schools; and Ronald Price, Assistant Superintendent for Business.



### SECRETARIES

**Row 1:** Debbie Zellers, Elain Hydinger, Shirley Barclay, Liz Frasca. **Row 2:** Lynn Praschak, Debbie Klippel, Jean Webb, Maggie Miller, Vi Solich.



### AIDES

**Row 1:** Cheryl Albers, Rosa Smith, Peggy Snelson, Hanne McDonald, Gloria Zale. **Row 2:** Carol Hogan, Sue Mathews, Janet Pennock, Nikki Jusko, Margaret Leposki, Judy Vassallo.

### ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Tom Herbert signs in couples at prom. This year there was a dual theme. All of the music was based on Rod Stewart's "Forever Young" and all of the decorations were based on "The Enchanted Garden of Eden."





# Schrenker Retires

He may not be the inventor, but when it comes to Merrillville Community Schools, Dr. Robert J. Schrenker can certainly be considered the innovator. For 17 years Schrenker has served as superintendent of Merrillville schools, establishing many programs and seeing the progress of several others. He left big shoes to follow when he retired on June 30.

Throughout the course of his career Schrenker has been a teacher, a principal, and a superintendent. In all of his jobs Schrenker remained dedicated. This can be seen by several accomplishments he has had during the past 17



years. The most recent included the decision to ban smoking in all corporation vehicles and at all outdoor venues. Last year smoking was banned in all school buildings.

Schrenker's accomplishments well always live on through Merrillville history. His 17 years of work helped to make the schools of Merrillville some of the best not only in the state, but the nation. If Schrenker's successors do only half as well as he did, the school corporation will still remain one of the best.

**-by Tom Gayda**

## Bryant J. Matthews

1938-1994



***"The best use of life is to spend it for something that outlasts life."***

William James



Kirk John Mitchell Photo

BRYANT J. MATTHEWS accepts the plaque which hangs in the fieldhouse named after him from L. J. Crist at the Dedication Ceremony for the fieldhouse.

# PERSONALITIES



# TWICE THE TROUBLE

Twins? No, but with their similiar looks and identical personalities, Edwin Brant, '94, and his brother Randall Brant, '96, very well could be.

Ed and Randy are the youngest of five sons. Ed feels that "this causes us to stick together. I guess we're kind of rebellious."

Both boys are interested in art, music, and wrestling. "My brothers have helped me with wrestling for as long as I can remember," says Randy. "Sometimes though, I think it was their way of have fun beating up the little guy and getting away with it."

Ed and Randy have a lot of the same friends so they are together quite often. "We just kick back, relax, and party," says Ed. "I love coming to school Monday morning and hearing how boring everyone's weekend was. It makes me appreciate my friends and imagination and creativity. We usually make great times." Both brothers admit that watching the movie *Dazed and Confused* makes them want to party!" They listen to a lot of music, especially Pearl Jam's "Daughter."

Even though they are very similar, Ed and Randy are two different people, two different personalities. That's how they want to be remembered. As Ed and Randy, not as an "Ed-Randy thing."

After graduation, Ed wants to continue school or enter the Air Force. He is undecided at the moment. Randy hasn't made any career decisions because he still has two years left at MHS.

• by Sara Nicholls



kari dombrowsky

# LIFE'S NOT A SOAP

Swimming. *Days of Our Lives*. Country music. *Backdraft*. Do these words have any meaning for you? They certainly do to Kari Dombrowsky. They describe some of her favorite things. Dombrowsky, '95, has been a swimmer since she was a little girl. She was awarded a letter for it when she was a freshman at Harrison. She is a member of the school swim team although she had tendonitis this season and said it was difficult to practice with the pain.

Dombrowsky's favorite TV show is *Days of Our Lives*. She stated excitedly, "I love that show! It's the best! It's awesome!" When she was in California a year ago she had the chance to meet all the *Days* stars.

Dombrowsky also enjoys listening to country music, "I love country music! It's funny because I used to hate it... now my radio station is set at 99.5 (US99) all the time !!" she commented. Two of her favorite songs are *Beer and Bones* by John Michael Montgomery and *The Dance* by Garth Brooks.



Her favorite movie is *Backdraft*, and her favorite actor just happens to be Billy Baldwin, who stars in it. She has a troll dressed up like a fireman because she likes the movie so well.

Dombrowsky comes from an average-sized Polish family that consists of her mom, her dad, and two older sisters, Michelle 22 years-old and Nancy 21 years-old. She is extremely proud of her Polish heritage and comments, "People make fun of me for being Polish. Hey...I love being Polish! Polish will rule the world someday! Yeah!"

She feels that honesty is the most important part of any relationship and asks the question, "If someone isn't honest, how can he/she be trusted?" She feels that if someone does not give you the truth, people may get hurt.

Dombrowsky has a wonderful sense of humor and says she is able to do some impressions. She says that she's been told that her best impression is Corky from *Life Goes On*.

Attending a newly renovated school is great and Dombrowsky appreciates the athletic department greatly. She especially enjoys the fact that the school has two pools which has made it more convenient to practice since the diving pool is not finished with it's renovations yet.

Dombrowsky is also a lucky person. She knows what she wants to do with her life after she completes high school. She plans to attend Indiana University and hopes to teach French and coach a swimming team of her own.

•by Susan Frenchik







Fairough Photos



# FAMILY VALUES

The first day of school, be it elementary or high school, is the chance for students to be out on their own, away from home for more than three or four hours a day, to let loose and do what they want without worrying what their parents will say. What to do when mother is in the same school? Who is the topic of discussion next year? The Foster's! There are eight family members in the Foster home, and things can get a little crazy both in the home and at school. The Foster kids currently attending MHS are Marie-Claire, '94; Joe, '96; and John, '97.

Even though the typical kid would have a problem with one of their parents being at school with them, the Foster children don't seem to mind at all. Joe says, "It's good my mom is there because whenever I need something my mommy's right down the hall."

Marie-Claire agrees, "I actually enjoy seeing her. When I need something, I can go to her. And she is always happy to see me."

There is a downside to having mother at school during the day, too. John says, "She can check up on my grades and me at the same time." Joe adds, "She can check up on me whenever she wants to."

Marie-Claire says, "She always tells her students about my life, and they know more than my best friends do."

Where does mother fit in all of this? Maryann Foster, art teacher, says, "It's an advantage to know what is going on at school. Students rarely inform parents of school events and news. I always know what's happening." But she doesn't check up on her children to be nosy. She will only do it if she feels that there is a problem. She states, "It would be hard to ignore the problems. I sometimes talk to other teachers if I casually see them, but I don't go out of my way to 'check up' on my children."

But all those kids in one house? What's it like? Is it crazy in the bathroom? Do they fight all the time? And do they have to take turns doing the dishes? Marie-Claire states, "My family has a tendency to fight about little things that are really stupid. We all have bad tempers, and we are so open we are not afraid to say what we think. My mom goes off on tangents. When we do something wrong, she talks about it for days, even after we apologize. But I love her that way. It's never boring in my house, and I can always find a sibling to talk to. We are appreciative to our parents, even though we'd never tell them. I am close to everyone in the family, and each person is unique. I don't think I could hate any of them."

Joe feels almost the same. "I'm close to the entire family, but I am closest to Marie-Claire and John, probably because they are closest to me in age. It's pretty neat, because when I grew up, I always had something to do because I have so many brothers and sisters. I just want to say that I am really going to miss Marie-Claire next year. She really means a lot to me. Before we moved to Merrillville, our old house didn't have enough room. The bills are also a lot more in a large family."

John says, "I think it's great because there is always something going on and someone to talk to. It is always exciting because there is so much commotion, especially at dinner because everyone has something to say. The biggest problem is the phone, and the shower is always busy. Every other week we have laundry or dishes, and every Saturday we have to clean our house. The house keeps getting more and more boring because everyone is going away to college. I feel that I am close to everyone."

Mom Foster says, "It's fun. Our house is always lively and exciting. I'll be sad to have Marie-Claire away at college in the fall. With only three children at home it'll be very different. It can get expensive with our family, but somehow God always provides. Doing dishes and laundry gets old after awhile. I take time to know my children. I try to attend their activities and help them with their studies if they need it. One fun thing we do is spend their sixteenth birthday in Chicago on a shopping spree."



dr. & t.j. lux

# HIGH EXPECTATIONS

Two more active people in the Merrillville community than Dr. Tony Lux, assistant superintendent for instruction, and his son T.J., '95, may not exist. Dr. Lux is soon to take the place of Dr. Robert Schrenker as superintendent of Merrillville Community School Corporation. At the same time, T.J. participated in various activities including tennis, basketball, and broadcasting.

"I really like the school system and the community. I can't think of another place I'd rather be. That's why I didn't look any place else for the job," commented Dr. Lux.

T.J. was involved in two successful sports this year, tennis and basketball.

"Tennis is a lot of fun. It gives me a nice little break from basketball. It's a new and enjoyable sport and the guys are great," said T.J.

The rest of the Lux family provides a great surge of encouragement for Dr. Lux and T.J.

"My family is great. They always come to my games and support me. They're always there for me, my mom (Allyson), dad, my sisters, (Megan, 19), and (Kim, 13). I really appreciate everything they do for me," added T.J.

Next year Dr. Lux has a big job ahead of him as superintendent; however, he is optimistic about his challenge.

"My goal is to see students enjoy going to school and to focus on student learning so that students may be able to achieve more," explained Dr. Lux.

The next year should prove to be a challenge as T.J. moves into his senior year and Dr. Lux becomes superintendent. But if things keep going like they have for the two Lux men, success seems guaranteed.



Bosenback photo



Rowe photo





Br photo



# OUT ON HER OWN

"Do your own thing. Do what you feel is right." That seems to be Carolina Procter's, '97, motto for life. Obviously it must be working too. According to Janell Deem, '97, "Carolina is one of the easiest people to get along with. She is smart, funny, and full of wit."

More importantly her beauty is far more than skin deep. She doesn't judge a person unless she has a fair chance to get to know that person- and even then she refuses to limit her opinion to just negative thoughts about him or her, whatever the case may be.

"Friends play a major role in my life. If I didn't have the friends that I have now, I don't know where I'd be," comments Procter. "I think it's good for my friends to agree with me, but I'm not greatly offended if they don't. Sometimes I think it helps me to broaden my point of view on certain topics."

This may be why Procter is so openminded. Sometimes it may seem as if she's shy, but that's only before she gets to know a person. It's just her style. "If I feel comfortable around someone, I'm more likely to become friends with them, than with someone I feel nervous around," she says.

Procter sees herself as an intelligent girl with many hopes and dreams. Some of those dreams would be to meet as many people as she can, graduate at the top of her class, and to get involved in many school activities.

"I'd like to make a positive difference in peoples lives. I would like to think that when a person remembers me, all that they be able to remember is good things that I have done," said Procter.

It's obvious to everyone that Carolina is in a league of her own. When it comes to sports she has been dedicated to them since she was young.

"When I was younger I used to love to just go outside and play basketball and baseball with the kids in my neighborhood," comments Procter.

All her efforts must have paid off because she is still involved in different sports at MHS today. Some of those are basketball, golf, and softball.

"One thing that I hope to get out of high school is a good idea on how people relate to each other. I believe it will come from experience, whether it is fights with friends or just learning from the mistakes that I've made," comments Procter.

She would really like to take sociology or psychology, if not both. She feels that her experiences in high school and possibly these courses will help her establish lasting relationships throughout her life.

Music is one example of Carolina's wide variety of tastes. From alternative to R & B, she likes it all. From Madonna to Spin Doctors to Tony Toni Tone, Procter has trouble picking her favorite.

"I guess you could call me a station hopper. But if I had to pick my absolute favorite it would have to be B96 at least for the pop, soul, and hip hop. And maybe the Bus (99.9 M) for alternative," Procter says.

She doesn't confine herself to just one station. Many times she has just turned to 104.3 FM for the oldies.

"Something about the style that they had back then, I just love it!" comments Procter.

Certain things can't be denied. Carolina Procter is definitely one of them. Her style is unique and all her own. There is no one like her.

• by Pat Farabaugh



chris stark

# STUDIOUS SENIOR

Sweet, positive, weird, and hilarious- those are just a few words that describe Chris Stark, '94. To most people he seems quite the carefree guy, but what most people don't know is that he can be highly sensitive and intelligent.

Stark enjoys going to MHS and feels that there has been a great change in the atmosphere since he was a sophomore. "When I first came to MHS it was like walking in the middle of a construction site. It was always cold and you had to wear coats and jackets. Now that I am a senior, the school is a 100% better, but I still think they could have picked a better colors than peach and lavender."

Stark doesn't play any type of school sport, but you will often find him taking advantage of the free weight room and Wellness Center by pumping iron regularly. Stark has been working out since he was about 13 years-old. "Working out is an intense activity. It relieves a lot of stress and allows you to relax and feel good about yourself." Just recently Stark has gotten involved in some body building, but doesn't see himself making a career of it. "Many of my friends work out with me, like Terry Narkum and Sean O'Hara and that makes working out more fun."

His other hobbies include hunting and tree climbing. Yes! Tree climbing. Stark's comments on his hobbies are that they are both very relaxing. "When you bag your first kill, or climb all the way to the top of a tree you feel this sense of a great accomplishment, and it makes you feel good about yourself."

Stark is very close to his two older brothers and his five nieces and eight nephews. He also enjoys hanging out with his friends. "I have a lot of friends who are just friends, then there are my two best friends, Terry and Sean, and then there is my girlfriend who means a lot to me, and she is really like my best friend."

"When I look for a girl, I don't usually go for the most gorgeous or beautiful girl in school, but I do like a nice body, not too fat or too skinny, and she has to have a good personality." To Stark, popularity means nothing as long as she is fun to be with and respects me as a person.

Stark plans on taking a little vacation with friends after he graduates. Also, in the near future, he wants to buy a motorcycle and cruise all summer long. "I want to travel the states ride the highways and not worry about a thing." His goals for the distant future range from graduating from college to marrying the girl he loves. "I hope that I get through all of life's hardships and not seeing anyone close to me suffer." But Stark's biggest goal is to just get through life.

Stark is definitely an unusual and interesting person and tends to draw attention to himself in many ways. "I think my personality sets me apart from other people. I try not to let my feelings show, and I keep my personal feelings to myself. Most people can't predict what I am thinking or going to do next." Stark's motto on life: "Do it while you can, You only live once."

•by Kimberly Anderson







BR Photo



Rowe Photo

#### THE FOOTBALL

team races onto the field before they take on their opposition.

#### VARSITY GIRLS

basketball players struggle to get the rebound in a season that the girls kept exciting and action-packed.

Whether you played or watched, our sports were like no other. Excellent athletes worked their best in sports ranging from gymnastics to football. Our athletes excelled for our enjoyment whenever they were challenged. We were proud of our athletes, even when they were beaten. They never quit, because we were behind them. When it came to our athletes' opponents, we told our stars to **LOOK 'EM IN THE EYE**, and never give up.





Evans Photo



TRYING FOR AN ACE,  
members of the boys  
tennis team practice  
prior to the Andrean  
match.

TENNIS

# NETTIN' UP VICTORIES

Tennis players excel in competition

Goals. The Merrillville boys tennis team definitely worked towards goals this season. They worked hard to reach, create, and achieve them. But not without disappointment, hard work, and one common thread: to succeed.

The season began with the usual sweaty and exhausting conditioning, which included two two hour sessions everyday, also involving Saturdays during the summer and two hours a day once school began. Challenge matches are what Head Coach Dave Zimmerman, along with Asst. Coach Larry Swanson, and Coach Ferrer Levinson used to make final cuts and the varsity line-up. After the cuts and line-ups were determined, the coaches were left with a team that entered the season strong and with a great desire to be the best. That proved to be a key asset in the success that the team had this year.

Experience was another advantage of the tennis team. With four returning letterman and many other returning players, the outlook of the season was high. The combination of experience and determination led the Pirates to win sectionals and place second in the Duneland Conference. They lost 1-4 against Portage during Regionals which put an abrupt end to an otherwise successful season. Portage proved to be a strong and tough opposition throughout the regular season and during Regional play.

Another key asset that the individual players, as well as the whole team, possessed was good mental attitudes. "We were an excellent team, commented Eric Culp, 95, but more than that we all got

along and that made the whole season fun." It is a known fact that if the attitudes and atmosphere of the team is good and positive, then overall the team will play better and be more successful.

A major highlight of the season was a match between Paul Puskar and an exchange student from Zimbabwe. He was ranked sixth in his country and was undefeated while attending Crown Point High School. "I felt that I was probably the only coach that had any faith that Paul could beat this guy, but Paul had more determination," said Zimmerman. Paul defeated his opponent 6-2. "That is one of the biggest accomplishments of my high school career, it will be hard to forget it," commented Puskar.

The determination, desire, and strength the team possessed led them to be a very strong team, along with the girls team. The girls team was ranked 14th in the state for much of the season. Leading the girls team were seniors Ann Gorman and Jenny Metros. The team was able to win first place at the Merrillville-Andrean Doubles Tournament and first place at the Griffith Invitational. With the captains' leadership they also placed second in the Duneland Conference and ended up with a 15-2 overall after their defeat in the second round of sectionals. One of the great strengths of the girls team was also the ability to get a long and the different range of talent. Both teams proved that not only do strengths lie in abilities, but also in each individuals attitudes within themselves and with each other. • **by Kimberly Anderson**



Team pictures on pages 215-216.





Rowe Photo



"My goal is to get to regionals or semi-state, but my hardest match is sectionals."

## Ann Gorman, '94

### Boys Tennis

MHS 4	MC Rogers 1
MHS 5	MC Elston 0
MHS 5	Valparaiso 0
MHS 4	Lowell 1
Portage 3	MHS 2
MHS 5	Chesterton 0
MHS 5	Griffith 0
MHS 5	Hobart 0
MHS 3	Crown Point 2
MHS 5	Andreon 2
MHS 6	MC Elston 1
MHS 3	LaPorte 2
MHS 5	Highland 0
MHS 5	Lake Central 0
Andreon 3	MHS 2
Munster 5	MHS 0

#### Sectionals:

MHS 5	Andren 0
MHS 5	Hobart 0

#### Regionals:

Portage 4	MHS 1
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#### Tournaments:

2nd place Highland Doubles Tourney

1st place Merrillville Invitational

Sectionals Champion

Varsity Record: 15-4

Duneland Conference: 2nd place

### Girls Tennis

MHS 4	Griffith 1
MHS 5	Lake Central 0
MHS 5	Lowell 0
MHS 5	Hobart 0
MHS 3	Highland 2
MHS 4	Andreon 1
MHS 5	Crown Point 0
MHS 5	Honover Central 0
MHS 4	MC Elston 0
MHS 5	Wheeler 0
MHS 3	LaPorte 2
Valparaiso 4	MHS 1
MHS 4	Portage 1
MHS 5	Chesterton 0
MHS 5	East Chicago 0

#### Sectionals:

MHS 5	Hobart 0
Valparaiso 3	MHS 2

#### Tournaments:

1st place Merrillville-Andreon Doubles Tourney

1st place Griffith Invitational

Varsity Record: 15-2

Duneland Conference: 2nd place

**ON HER WAY TO STATE**  
competition Jessica  
Figueroa, '95, races to  
the finish line. Besides  
cross country, Figueroa  
also participated in  
track and stood on the  
prom court.

**LIZ SIMINIC, '95, VEN-**  
tures through the  
woods during a cross  
country meet. The girls  
team had a new  
coach this year, JoAnn  
Crawford, a teacher at  
Lake Central High  
School.



(Staff photo)

**TRYING TO EDGE OUT**  
an Andean 59'er, Rich  
Stazinski, '95, struggles  
to take the lead. This  
year's boys cross  
country team was filled  
with an up-and-coming  
group of athletes.

**EUGENE VIVO, '97, RUNS**  
his heart out to the  
finish line. Vivo also  
resurfaced during the  
winter sport season as  
the costumed pirate at  
basketball games.



Evans photo



"I felt very excited about  
making it for cross country.  
It's really hard to make it  
because only the top ten  
individuals from semi-state  
make it. I was happy to  
accomplish my goal."

**JESSICA FIGUEROA, '95**

#### BOYS

Andean 20	MHS 35	8 of 8 at Duneland Conference Meet
Portage 20	MHS 44	Placed 6 at sectionals
Griffith 44	MHS 64	R. Stazinski placed 8 at regional
Hobart 23	MHS 32	R. Stazinski placed 72 at semi-state
M.C. Rogers 15	MHS 44	Girls scores unavailable
Laporte 21	MHS 35	
Valparaiso 16	MHS 43	
Chesterion 18	MHS 45	
Crown Point 19	MHS 44	
23 of 23 at New Prairie Invite		
15 of 21 at Highland Invite		
12 of 14 at Hobart Invite		
5 of 11 at Clark Invite		

# IN FOR THE LONG HAUL

Teams deal with youth; inexperience



Elcott photo

When was the last time you ran seven miles in one day? Try running 3-8 miles every day at practice, and sometimes getting up for a long run before school three days out of the week. This may seem like a nightmare to most of us, but it is a reality to the MHS cross-country teams. However, practice obviously makes perfect. The girls team qualified for semi-state, and Rich Stazinski, '95, represented the boys' team in semi-state competition.

Here's how it works. The top 10 runners competing at sectionals advance to the next level of competition. Then, the top 10 after regionals go to semi-state, and so on until state. The entire team gets the opportunity to advance when they are in the top four of each level of competition.

After placing third at sectionals and regionals, the girls' cross-country team went to semi-state. The team was represented there by Erin Yeoman, '94; Jessica Figueroa, '95; Cheryl Gonzalez, '95; Nicole Hyatt, '95; Liz Suminic, '95; and Julie Milak, '96; and Jill Harms, '96.

Although the boys did not get to semi-state as a team, Stazinski ran for MHS, and did quite well, despite not advancing to state.

The end of the year qualifications are not the only good news for these teams.

"We did very well at the invitational tournaments this year," stated Yeoman.

Very well, indeed. The Rensselaer Invitational had 20 other schools competing, and MHS placed fourth overall. The girls placed second at the Hammond Clark tournament, and second at the Lowell tournament.

The girls consider their overall team growth to have been successful this year.

"Our team is the first from Merrillville to make it to semi-state," stated Figueroa.

Yeoman also added, "We took a team that didn't even make it out of sectionals last year, to a team that did well at a semi-state level of competition."

The boys team also had their share of extra accomplishments. Coach Greg Pierson felt, "Our season was very successful, since most of our runners took two or more minutes off of their times."

Besides competing at semi-state, Stazinski also took 11th place at the New Prairie Invitational meet. "It showed I could compete with the best in the state, because 10 of the top 20 teams in the state competed."

Ted Phillips congratulated Coach Pierson, "He is a great coach and motivator. Not only has he helped us to succeed in cross-country, but he has helped us to get ready for other sports, as well."

Both the girls and boys teams have great expectations for next year. Pierson pointed out, "We have an excellent group of freshmen and sophomore runners, and a good group of eighth grade runners for next year."

Yeoman predicted, "Since our team has come so far, next year is going to be great." She also added, "We got little attention and little support from many people, maybe now we can show them that they should give this team the respect it deserves."

Stazinski had a solid prediction of his own. "Merrillville will have its first boys representative(s) at the state meet in 1994." • **by Rachel Torres**



Evans photo



Elcott photo

**ADORNED WITH THEIR** trophies and medals, the girls cross country team celebrates a victory. The majority of the team is made of underclassmen who look forward to next season.

Team pictures on page 212.

FOOTBALL

# NEVER GIVING UP

Struggling team makes final game

Many people involved with football at MHS went into this season hoping the team would repeat the excellent season they had in 1992. While the team was unable to duplicate the previous season, they put 100% into their season, making it to the sectional finals and finishing fifth in the Duneland Conference.

"If you look at the records on paper you'd think we had a dismal year, but that's not how it was at all. I think we were a very tight team that stuck it out through thick and thin," said Justin Ramage, '94.

The season started off well, with the team winning three of their first four games.

Mike Krutz, assistant coach, said, "The season was a roller coaster - up and down! (It) started with two wins, lost one, won one, lost four, won two, and finally lost in the sectional championship."

Even with a struggling season, the team was able to break a previous school record.

The team's victory against Chesterton on September 3 marked their 19th consecutive regular season win, breaking the record of 18 set by the team from 1963-1965. The team broke another record, too.

"Our team put MHS over the 300 win mark (this year). We contributed to the breaking of two records," said Greg Smith, '94.

After four straight losses things looked bleaked for the team, but as Marino Stath, '96, said, "One of the great highlights of the season was after losing four straight games, we regrouped and beat Crown Point and Lew Wallace to make it to the sectional finals. That was a great accomplishment."

This year the team's motto was, "Tough times never last; tough people do." The football team proved the quote correct and kept their heads held up high in victories and defeats. • **by Tom Gayda and Sara Nicholls**

**QUARTERBACK BRIAN**  
Hogan, '94, prepares to  
pass the ball during the  
homecoming game  
against Andean. The  
Pirates lost 3-0.



Team pictures on  
pages 212-213.







Evans photo

#### GOING DOWN! MATT

Sieker, '96, brings down a Chesterton Trojan at home. The Pirates trounced the Trojans 28-0 in a Duneland conference contest.



Kim Photo

#### RUSHING ONTO THE

Field, Terry Narkum, '94, prepares for battle against the Andean 59'ers. Narkum was a senior letterman on the team.

#### BEN PARRISH, '94, AND

Jason Simpson, '96, shake hands after a successful play. Parrish played tight end, Simpson played quarterback.



Kim Photo



"We had a positive year considering that we had a less than perfect record. The high point was making it to the sectional finals."

**KEVIN ERNY, '95**

#### VARSITY

MHS 14  
MHS 28  
Portage 20  
MHS 31  
Valparaiso 31  
Andean 3  
Hobart 34  
LaPorte 24  
SECTIONALS  
MHS 19  
MHS 39  
Lake Central 56

Crown Point 3  
Chesterton 0  
MHS 10  
M.C. Rogers 14  
MHS 17  
MHS 0  
MHS 7  
MHS 14  
Crown Point 13  
Lew Wallace 24  
MHS 13

VARSITY RECORD: 5-6  
DUNELAND CONFERENCE  
RECORD: 3-4  
JV RECORD: 6-2  
FRESHMEN RECORD: 5-3  
ALL-DUNELAND CONFERENCE  
PLAYERS:  
Jason Galoozis  
Terry Narkum  
Ben Parrish  
Greg Smith

ED GLICK WORKS WITH the boys swim team as they prepare for their next meet. The team practiced before and after school to build up the necessary stamina.

**AARON MALERICH, '97,** takes a breath as he prepares for his turn. Events can be won or lost on how quickly and efficiently the swimmer can turn.

**KRISTEN LUCIA SWIMS** laps during an after school practice in the new lap pool. Both pools were not completed until well into the girls season.



Farabaugh Photo



"I felt that the work I did during the year would carry me to state. Then when I made it I was happy with what I did."

**MIKE JONSON, '96**

**GIRLS**

MHS 91  
Laporte 111  
MHS 108  
Portage 133  
MHS 99  
MC Rogers 109  
Chesterton 140  
Valparaiso 143  
Crown Point 125  
Munster 113  
Lake Central 143  
Lowell Inliffe 1st place  
Conference 7th place

**Griffith 72**

MHS 74  
Hammond 78  
MHS 50  
Hobart 84  
MHS 75  
MHS 45  
MHS 42  
MHS 61  
MHS 73  
MHS 43  
**BOYS**  
Valparaiso 109  
Portage 118

**Rennselear 113**

MC Rogers 114  
Lake Central 131  
Laporte 115  
Chesterton 125  
Hobart 127  
Munster 110  
Highland 101  
Crown Point 111  
Conference 8th place  
Sectionals 5th place  
State 43rd place  
MHS 68  
MHS 66

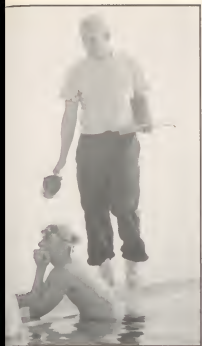
**MHS 72**

MHS 72  
MHS 47  
MHS 70  
MHS 39  
MHS 56  
MHS 67  
MHS 72  
MHS 70

**ALL-CONFERENCE:** Mike Jonson  
**STATE QUALIFIER:** Mike Jonson

# NEW ADVENTURES

Young teams face tough challenges



Farabaugh Photo



Rowe Photo



The 1993-94 boy's swimming season was full of tribulation and triumphs. They finished six out of seven in the Duneland Conference and suffered a loss of ten seniors, their morale and their head coach. With a season record of 2-10, the Bucs looked forward to a new beginning.

The last three coaches have only stayed for two years in a row. Hopefully, the new coach, Ed Glick, will be with them for many years to come.

Ryan Brown, '96 explained, "In a sense, it will be a rebuilding year." Eric Randolph, '95, agreed, "Our season looks promising this year, Coach Glick is willing to help us if we try to work and we have talent hidden in the team."

Although they lost the senior spirit from last season, Mike Jonson, '96, said "We have a lot of up and coming talent, if everyone keeps practicing like they are, we'll do better than expected." "We have a more positive outlook than last year and are determined to do our best," stated Eric Randolph, '95.

"Chris Sikich looks to be one of the most promising freshman on the team," added Dave Greenberg, '95, but Jason Janiszewski said "our whole team looks promising."

The new coach has helped build confidence and determination for an outstanding season. "I believe our new coach (Glick) will lead us in the right direction," stated Brown. "Our major change toward the good is hiring Coach Glick," added Jonson, "He can motivate us to be the best we can be."

Key swimmers this year were Mike Jonson, John Sell, Eric Randolph and diver Jason Janiszewski.

Personal goals range from short term like Greenburg's goal of swimming a fifty-five second 100m freestyle and a sixty second butterfly, and Jason Jezuit's, '96, goal of surviving five A.M. practices to long term like Jonson's goal to make top eight at state. He then hopes to qualify for Junior Nationals at University of Michigan.

But the question still remains-what's going to make this season different? "The coach and his whole-hearted efforts to help individuals do their best will make all the difference," said Jezuit. "It's all up to the Seniors," added Janiszewski "We'd like to close the gap on Lake Central, but, I believe that people are willing to swim every yard and dive every dive to make the difference between winning and losing."

Team pictures on page 215.

## VOLLEYBALL

## SERVING UP SUCCESS

Team spikes their way to regionals

A once struggling squad exploded this year as the volleyball team went at their competition full force and won the sectional title.

"I thought we did very good this season. We improved greatly from last year," said DeDe Riddle, '96.

"Our season was great. Everyone was really confident about themselves and the other teammates. We worked together and that's what wins games," said Ronda Price, '96.

The team showed that all their hard work would pay off. The girls were determined to have a successful season and each time on the court they played with the desire to win. "A desire is something that cannot be taught. It's something you are born with. The desire to win, work hard and be the best," said Chrissy Pozgay, '94, the team's only senior. Through the summer each individual of the team worked hard to improve. They played great together, which helped them achieve their victories.

"The way we got along off the court contributed to the way we got along on the court," said Nan Malerich, '95. That helped them work together toward their victories.

This year the volleyball team's biggest

rivalry was Andrean, "because it was our first game and we wanted to beat them to start off our season right," said Megan Moloney, '95.

An important factor to this team is that they showed that they had outstanding potential "even though we only had one graduating starter, Pozgay, we will still have the same amount of potential here next year," added Erin Janovsky, '95.

The team ended the season successfully by becoming sectional champs.

"I'm really happy with us winning sectionals. That has been my goal ever since I was a freshman. I'm really glad I was able to win a sectional before I left," said Pozgay, '94.

"Sectional's is a great feeling. It's one of the best feelings you feel great like you're walking on air," said Price, '96. Winning sectionals was a goal the team was striving for from the beginning of their season.

"I feel we played well, we played up to our ability. It was one of our goals to win sectionals from the beginning of our season. It made it more realistic when we won because we had been thinking about it the whole season," said Rachel Price, '96. • **by Michelle Borman**

**BEFORE GAME TIME THE** volleyball team huddles to plan their game strategy. In a spectacular season the team advanced to regionals.



Rowe photo.

Team pictures on  
page 217.





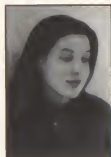
Rowe photo

**WITH A LOOK OF** seriousness, the volleyball team watches the players on the court. The team went to new heights this year, making it to regionals.



Rowe photo

**RONDA PRICE, '96,** powers the ball. Price and her twin sister Rachel were an important part of the volleyball team. The girls also were top basketball players.



"This is the best year MHS has had in volleyball in eight years. We did it by winning sectionals."

## DeDe Riddle, '96

### VARSITY

MHS won	Andean lost
MHS won	Whiting lost
MHS won	Lake Station lost
MHS won	Griffith lost
Lake Central won	MHS lost
MHS won	Hobart lost
MHS won	Boone Grove lost
MHS won	Lowell lost
MHS won	Calumet lost
MHS won	Portage lost
Bishop Noll won	MHS lost
MHS won	Chesterion lost
MHS won	Morton lost
MHS won	Crown Point lost
MHS Invite	
MHS won	Munster lost
Mishawaka won	MHS lost
Penn won	MHS lost
MHS won	Valparaiso lost
MHS won	Valparaiso lost
M.C. Rogers won	MHS lost
Highland Invite	
MHS won	M.C. Marquette lost
MHS won	Highland lost
MHS won	Hebron lost
LaPorte won	MHS lost
Sectionals	
MHS won	Lake Station lost
MHS won	Crown Point lost
MHS won	Hobart lost
Regionals	
Lake Central won	MHS lost

JV Record: 2-19  
 Freshmen Record: 19-6  
 Duneland Conference Record: 5-2  
 All- Duneland Conference: Chrissy Pozgay

# CROWD PLEASERS

## Cheerleaders entertain rowdy fans

**G**o, Pirates, GO!!! The MHS cheerleaders are known to fill the stands with cheers of support for our Pirates. However, what is not as well-known are the things they do around game time. The cheerleaders decorate the lockers and locker rooms of the male athletes before important games. They also bake for the guys, as Angela Kilgore, '95 explained, "to show our appreciation, and to let them know we are behind them all the way!"

When they are given permission, the cheerleaders like to have pep rallies. Alyssa Wright, '96 calls them, "great spirit boosters."

During the summer, the cheerleaders went to a cheerleading camp at St. Mary's College in Notre Dame, Indiana. "We were one of the best squads there, and we placed high in almost every single competition category," says Kim Anderson, '95.

Kilgore adds, "though at times it was stressful, we came back with some trophies, ribbons, and spirit sticks." What are spirit sticks you might ask?

Anderson explains, "After each day of camp, the schools with the most spirit got one. MHS got one every day." Mandy Ojelnik, '95, states proudly, "It showed that MHS was one of the most spirited groups there." Wright adds, "We also participated in the Fourth of July Parade, which is always fun."

The cheerleaders also raise money for their squads during the year. Wright comments, "the patron ads for the football program are always a big fundraiser, and the proceeds are split between us and the athletic department." The proceeds that the squads kept went to purchase new uniforms and some sweatshirts.

Last year, the varsity cheerleading squad also had guys to help. This year, however, no guys wanted to cheer, and the girls had adjust. Kilgore feels, "the squads won't get as much attention as we did last year. Last year we were like a college squad, and the only school in the area with an actual guy squad."

Ojelnik states, "It would have given us better opportunity to have different stunts, but we adjusted and added different moves into our routines."

• by Rachel Torres



**CHEERLEADERS EVERY-**  
where! Members of the  
varsity and JV cheer-  
leading squads do their  
fight song routine prior to  
game time.

#### JV CHEERLEADER

Megan Wojciechowski,  
'96, leads the cheers at  
a JV basketball game.

Cheerleaders are  
required to perform at  
football and basketball  
games.



Team  
pictures on  
page 211.





Rowe photo

#### SMILING FOR THE

crowd, Angela Mish, '94, shakes her pom-poms to get the crowd rowdy at a basketball game. Cheerleaders went without male counterparts this year.



**BUMPIN' AND GRINDIN',** Mandy Olejnik, '95, and Wendy Adams, '94, take mid-court at a performance. Olejnik and Adams have both cheered for multiple years.

**KRISTIN LUCIA, '95,** dances to "Shake the Room," a popular song from D.J. Jazzy Jeff and the Fresh Prince. Cheerleaders performed up to six or seven routines a game.



Rowe photos

# RISING TO THE TOP

## Hoopers handle game pressures

With few returning starters and only one returning letterman, this year's basketball team had a lot of work cut out for them. Hopes for a winning season depended on the progress of the new varsity members and some reliable freshmen. Although the team had a slow start, they "began jelling around Holiday Tournament time," said head coach Jim East.

Dante Price, '97, was a nice surprise for the Pirates. Hard work earned him a spot as point guard. Jamaal Davis, '97, stepped in for the Pirates in January, seeing a good deal of playing time. Brett Fedak and TJ Lux, both '95, contributed to the team with their motivation and returning skills. Mike Guernsey and Kevin Erny, both '95, and Tori Hughes, '94, also helped to motivate the team. Ryan Shelton, '94, added height and dependable back up to this year's Pirate team.

The team overcame some tough losses and continued to play hard. One outstanding accomplishment was the victory at North Judson against the Bluejays, who were ranked 17th in the state, and were previously undefeated. They ended the season with a remarkable 17-7 record and second consecutive Sectional title.

The team had great defense, "good shot selection", and "powerful rebounding effort", said East.

The players aren't the only ones who noticed this good season; the fans did too.

Judy Adams, '95, commented, "as a pom, it is always a lot more fun to support an exciting and successful basketball team. This year's team was exactly that; exciting and successful!" •**by Sara Nicholls**

Team pictures on page 209.

**WITH SECTIONAL** trophy in hand, members of the basketball team celebrate their victory over River Forest and a second straight sectional title. At regionals the Pirates lost to Andean in overtime in the opening round.

**THE CROWD ANXIOUSLY** watches Jamaal Davis, '94, as he moves through a sea of Lowell Red Devils on his way to two points. Davis was one of three freshmen on the varsity squad.

The other freshmen were Dante Price and Jovan Blacknell.



Rowe Photo



Rowe Photo



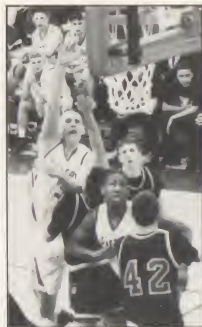
"The season went extremely well with only one returning letterman. It was a great year, and it shows because we won the holiday tournament and sectionals."

GEOFF GRONOWSKI, '94





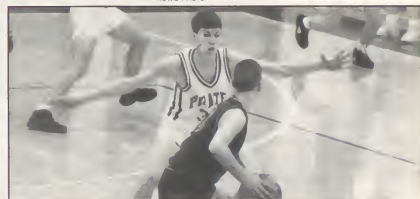
**TORI HUGHES, '94,** powers the ball up for two points during sectionals. En route to the sectional title the Pirates downed Hanover Central, Hobart, and River Forest. Many fans expected a Merrillville-Crown Point rematch at sectionals, but Hobart bumped off CP in the opening round.



Rowe Photo

**FOLLOWING THROUGH** on the shot Brett Fedak, '95, contributes to the team's victory over Lowell. The game against the Lowell Red Devils was scheduled for February 25, but was moved to the following day because of hazardous weather Friday.

**JUNIOR VARSITY PLAYER** Eric Culp, '95, tries to stop his opponent from passing the ball. Culp, along with Jovan Blacknell, '97, moved up from the JV to the varsity for play-offs.



Rowe Photo



## VARSITY

MHS 68	Munster 49
S.B. Riley 70	MHS 50
Gary Wallace 73	MHS 69
MHS 53	Andean 50
Valparaiso 65	MHS 55
Holiday Tournament	McCutcheon 60
MHS 69	Portage 46
MHS 56	
MHS 48	Hobart 26
Gary Roosevelt 59	MHS 49
MHS 74	Chesterton 43
MHS 68	Lake Central 42
Crown Point 55	MHS 51
MHS 83	Gavit 53

MHS 66	Laporte 52
MHS 73	North Judson 68
MHS 64	M.C. Rogers 42
MHS 52	Portage 42
E.C. Central 59	MHS 52
MHS 65	Highland 49
MHS 49	Lowell 39
Sectionals	
MHS 58	Hanover Central 29
MHS 49	Hobart 43
MHS 70	River Forest 32
Regionals	
Andean 57	MHS 54 (OT)

**VARSITY RECORD:** 17-7  
**DUNELAND CONFERENCE**  
**RECORD:** 5-2  
**JV RECORD:** 11-9  
**FRESHMEN RECORD:** 15-6  
**ALL-DUNELAND CONFERENCE**  
**TEAM:**  
 Brett Fedak

**DURING AN INTENSE**  
practice, varsity  
wrestlers sharpen the  
basics of the sport.  
MHS remained a  
dominant force in local  
and state wrestling this  
year.

**CHRIS ZERVOS, '97,** pulls  
his rival towards the  
mat during a JV match.  
The JV, coached by  
Chris Rassbach and  
Charles Smith, is the  
starting ground for  
many of the varsity  
wrestlers.



**PROVING NOT ALL**  
wrestlers are mean  
grumps, Dave Vode,  
'94, also served as  
senior class president.  
Vode wrestled in the  
program for four years.



**TIM LAVERY, '94**

"We had a very successful  
regular season. We sur-  
prised a lot of teams by ty-  
ing for the conference  
championship.

#### **VARSITY**

Portage 31  
MHS 36  
MHS 33  
MHS 48  
MHS 54  
MHS 33  
MHS 42  
MHS 66  
MHS 48  
MHS 51

MHS 26  
Crown Point 24  
Chesterton 19  
Valparaiso 9  
North Newton 15  
Penn 26  
Plymouth 16  
MC Rogers 6  
Hobart 16  
LaPorte 13

Merrillville Invite: 1st Place  
Twin Lakes Invite: 2nd Place

Greenwood Invite: 2nd Place  
Duneland Conference Tournament:  
1st Place  
Sectionals: 1st Place  
Regionals: 3rd Place  
Semi-state: 8th Place  
**ALL-DUNELAND CONFERENCE TEAM:**  
Ted Phillips, Mike Mikesell, Tim Lavery  
**STATE QUALIFIERS:** Jeremy Schwanat,  
Mike Mikesell, Tim Lavery  
**IHSAA ACADEMIC/ATHLETIC**  
**AWARDS:** Tim Lavery, Ted Phillips

# WRESTLING

## MAT STARS MAKE STATE

Three wrestlers travel to Indianapolis

Power. Strength. Endurance. Sweat. The wrestlers at MHS definitely possess these key assets, and many more. Just ask Ted Phillips, Dave Vode, Tim Lavery, all '94, and loads of others who sweat and beat themselves against walls and each other everyday, and that's just in the first twenty minutes of practice. The rest of their four day week practices consist of conditioning, stretching, running, and mastering old and new moves.

"Mastering our moves is the best part of practice, because you get to master your old ones and learn new moves," says Vode.

Wednesday and Saturday, the days of the meets, all the hard work pays off.

The wrestlers began their season strong and ended it even stronger. They took second at the Twin Lakes Invitational, second at the Greenwood Invitational, and first at their own Merrillville Invite. Every second place finish was within five points from first.

A major goal of the team's season was

taking the Crown Point sectional, which the team successfully accomplished. State qualifying hopefuls included Phillips, Lavery, Mike Mikesell, '95, and Jeremy Schwandt, '96. All but Phillips was able to reach state competition. It was a very emotional and trying time for Phillips and his teammates when he was injured during practice, which put him out of the end of the season.

"One of the major strengths of the whole team this year was good, healthy attitudes," says head coach Chris Joll, "we also have two great assistant coaches-Chris Rassbach and Charlie Smith."

The combination of support, strength, and optimism definitely helped the team reach all their goals. They were one of the toughest teams and highest-ranking in state.

"I guess all the beating against the wall was worth it," said Lavery.

• by Kimberly Anderson

WITH HIS MATCH BEHIND him, Bob Burkus, '97, gets advice on how to improve upon his mistakes. Burkus was one of several freshmen to compete.

Team picture on page 217.

## GYMNASTICS

## SHAKING UP STATE

Girls are among several local teams to dominate gymnastics

Sticks and stones won't break their bones, but who said anything about the uneven bars? The injuries that befell the gymnastics team seemed to send out the message that the MHS team was doomed. However, despite all the injuries that the team suffered, they have done well and risen above the obstacles. The gymnastics team won their own invitational they hosted early in the season and repeat success in several other meets.

Becky Schreiber, '94, was one of the girls that was on the injured list. With knee surgery putting her out of commission, she had no chance of competing during her senior year.

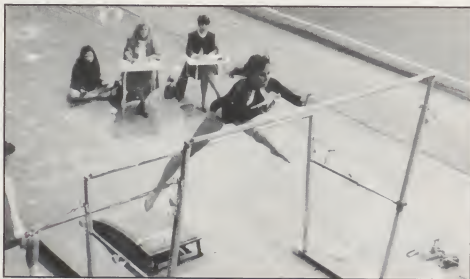
"It was very hard to sit and watch the team compete. If I had the chance to compete again, even just once, I would. I liked to compete, support, and help motivate them, but I would rather have competed

with them," said Schreiber.

According to Staci Skura, '94, the gymnastics team did their best. "We did what we could, and we are really happy because we made it to regionals. The sport of gymnastics is reaching a high point it has never seen, and we couldn't keep up with that as a team."

Because of the injuries and mental strength, a lot of people were down and they did not perform as well as they could. Jenny Bryan, '94, hurt her back, as did Lisa Zak, '95, and Amy Sopczak, '96. Despite the injuries though, the team was able to make it to regionals and did their best on the way there. No one said a team had to be perfect all the time, but the gymnastics team tried with their face against the wind. • **by Shannon Bondra and Tina Yurechko**

**JENNY BRYAN, '94,** tackles the uneven bars at competition. Throughout her gymnastics career, Bryan displayed excellent ability and leadership, making her one of the top gymnasts of Indiana.



Team picture on page 213.







#### PREPARING HER

troops for war, gymnastics head coach Diane Roberts raises the spirits of her girls. During their entire season the team remained ranked in state and continues to produce state level athletes.



**CAREFULLY** concentrating, Lisa Zak, '95, puts her best effort into winning her event. Zak is one of nine underclassmen on the gymnastics team. Less than half the team will be lost to graduation.



"As a team we had an excellent season. The highlight was probably beating Chesterton at the sectional meet to advance to regionals.

## JENNY BRYAN, '94

MHS 104.65	MC Rogers 74.10
MHS 106.90	Lowell 99.30
MHS 107.90	Hobart 101.90
MHS 106.10	LaPorte 89.40
Portage 110.50	MHS 101.95
Chesteron 107.90	MHS 107.80
Valparaiso 110.70	MHS 107.10
MHS 98.15	Crown Point 75.60
Duneland Conference Meet: 4th Place (106.05)	
Sectionals: 3rd Place (106.60)	
Regionals: 3rd Place (104.55)	
MHS Pirate Pride Invitational: 1st Place (107.80)	
Fort Wayne Concordia Invitational: 3rd Place (102.00)	
Lafayette Jeff Invitational: 2nd Place (100.90)	

TEAM TWO RECORD: 6-2  
ALL-DUNELAND CONFERENCE:  
Jenny Bryan, Amy Sopczak  
IHSA MENTAL ATTITUDE AWARD  
WINNER: Jenny Bryan

**MICHELLE BORMAN, '94,** and Chrissy Pozgay, '94, get set to go for the rebound as they wait to see if the shot will drop in a game against MC Rogers.

**HOURS OF PRACTICE** after school are required to hone the necessary skills. Many of the girls also spent their summer vacation attending summer recreation in order to improve.

**CHRISSY POZGAY, '94:** Michelle Borman, '94; Steph Vaise, '97; Lori Modglin, '95; Cheryl Santos, '94; and Carrie Zapinski, '94, take a breather as they watch the action in the MC Rogers game from the bench.



Elliott Photo



Evans Photo



"The biggest disappointment of my season was when Coach Dust lost the Kiss the Pig Contest."

**CHRISSY POZGAY, '94**

## VARSITY

MHS 44	Munster 33	MHS 34	Hobart 43
MHS 81	Hammond Gavitt 15	MHS 30	Valparaiso 62
MHS 81	Gary Roosevelt 27	MHS 55	West Side 56
MHS 36	EC Central 72	MHS 50	Calumet 31
MHS 60	Pioneer 61	MHS 44	M.C. Rogers 31
MHS 46	North White 39	Sectionals	
MHS 48	LaPorte 41	MHS 66	Lake Station 21
MHS 50	Chesterton 44	MHS 45	Hobart 54
MHS 49	Andreon 30	<b>VARSITY RECORD:</b> 11-9	
MHS 40	Portage 46	<b>DUNELAND CONFERENCE RECORD:</b> 3-4	
MHS 51	Highland 24	<b>JV RECORD:</b> 10-8	
MHS 36	Crown Point 45	<b>FRESHMEN RECORD:</b> 7-7	
MHS 45	Lew Wallace 71		

# FULL OF SURPRISES

Girls stun fans with impressive record

Girls basketball proved to be strong this year, with the team improving their record from last year and enjoying a tremendous season.

The coaching staff showed support and encouragement towards each player making the season more enjoyable.

"I am extremely pleased with this season's results. The girls put forth a great effort and a lot of hard work. We improved our record to 11-9 which is a lot more enjoyable than the four wins of last year. By the end of the season our sophomores blended in well with the upperclassmen. That's a bigger task than one would think, but the kids responded well and did the best they could. I hate to see this senior class go since they are the first freshmen I had; I sure will miss them. The juniors, sophomores, and the freshmen, however, will bring a spark to the Lady Pirate program that will prove to be very successful!" commented head coach Lori Dust.

The Lady Pirates proved that they had the dedication and desire to become a tough team.

"I'm pleased with the way the season went. How can I not be happy with the team's improvement?" said Chrissy Pozgay, '94.

The girls put a lot of commitment into the sport by working hard not just

during the season, but also by going to summer recreation to improve their skills.

"I feel summer recreation was important because it helped me improve my weak skills," said Carrie Zapinski, '94.

When the team went out on the floor they went out to play as a unit, focused on nothing but the game. By watching their performance on the court, it is easy to see that they are a group that gets along as a closeknit friendship.

"The majority of the team got along really well. My teammates became like my best friends because I spent a lot of time with them out of school. I'm gonna miss all the underclassmen because we really had a great time together," commented Pozgay.

The program improved a great deal. Compared to past years, one could see how much of an improvement the girls have made.

"I think that all the work that went into the girls program has finally paid off. As a senior, I've experienced many losses and wins over the season. To win is the greatest feeling, and for once this year I felt as though we were winners. I think that there is a bright future ahead for Coach Dust and the Lady Pirates," said Zapinski.

• by Tina Yurechko

Team pictures on page 210.



Evans Photo





**HEAD TRAINER SHERM** Izsak works on the ankle of Mike Mikesell, '95. Many players must have their ankles or wrists taped before practice, as well as before every game.

**RUNNING RELAYS, THE** girls tennis team works on conditioning in the fieldhouse. Athletes who are in good condition lessen their chances of being injured as they participate in their sport.



Fairbaugh Photo

**STAYING IN SHAPE** keeps athletes from running out of gas when they need energy.



# TAPING INJURIES

## Student trainers assist athletes

Throughout the years Merrillville has experienced defeat, victory, and yes, also ankle taping.

The fine art of ankle taping can only be mastered by those who volunteer to put up with the athletes and those who have plenty of time to spare on their hands. Unfortunately, many of the athletes do not appreciate the hard work and dedication that the student trainers put forth.

Becky Stinnett, '94, said, "I feel we are somewhat taken for granted. The athletes do not realize we are working for free."

Most student trainers will fork out over 12 hours a week assisting the injured athletes. Taping ankles and wrists, wrapping knees and elbows, and even preparing for athletic events is what keeps the six student trainers constantly on the go.

Kim Simpson, '94, said, "For a football game we always have to be there about three hours before. During this time we never stop. The guys (athletes) are at the door waiting to be taped while we are in the middle of carrying out other jobs given to us by Sherm."

In order to be a trainer a student must show an interest in athletic training, learn the many ways of taping, and running the athletic equipment. Most of the concepts are taught by Sherm Izsak, head sports trainer or by attending summer camp.

"We learned many different ways of taping, what to do in emergencies, and we learned about the anatomy and how certain injuries can be rehabilitated," commented Simpson on her camp experience at Indiana University.

Although many trainers seem to be too busy to have any fun, they some how have accumulated many memories.

Katie Forman, '95, said, "My favorite thing is when it is really cold outside and steam comes out the (football) helmet holes and when the players take their helmets off their whole head steams. Student trainers have learned to appreciate the hard work of Izsak.

• by Cathy Navarro



Rowe Photo



Bondia Photo

Group picture on page 68.

BASEBALL

# RIGHT AT HOME

Team adjusts to new field

It was a season of ups and downs, balls and strikes, wins and losses. In spite of it all, the team managed a respectable 19-11 record.

Catcher Ben Parrish, '94, was the team's captain. He said he tried to lead by example which he thought went naturally with his role as catcher. "As a catcher I have to take control of the defense and keep everybody talking and into the game."

Nevertheless, an early season injury to pitcher Brett Fedak, '95, seemed to spell disaster for the team. Although the team had early losses to Andean, Crown Point, and

LaPorte, they got on track and finished second in the Duneland Conference with a 9-5 record for conference play.

The return of Fedak saw them looking at sectionals with a positive attitude. Drawing the bye gave the team hope of avenging their early exit from the tournament last year and a good shot at advancing to the East Chicago Regional.

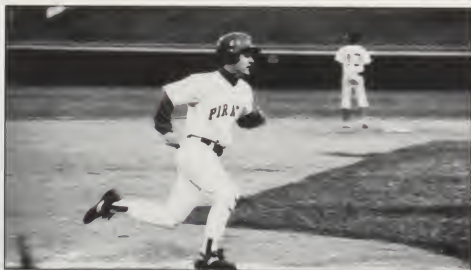
However, the team rolled over River Forest 15-1 in their first sectional game only to fall to Crown Point 7-1.

• by Justin Ramage

#### ROUNDING THIRD, TIM

Lavery, '94, heads home. Lavery shows his hustle as he goes in for the score in a game against conference rival LaPorte.

**GOING THROUGH HIS** wind-up, pitcher Mike Clark, '95, prepares to release the ball. Clark and the other starting pitchers were forced to pick up some of the slack when Brett Fedak, '95 was injured.



Team pictures on  
page 208.

Evans Photo

**STANDING IN, BRETT**  
Fedak, '95, watches as  
the pitch leaves the  
pitcher's hand. Fedak,  
a starting pitcher,  
missed part of the  
season because of an  
injury.

**WATCHING HIS TEAM AT**  
bat, catcher Ben  
Parrish, '94, thinks  
ahead to the opposing  
batters coming up next  
inning. As the catcher,  
he runs the team much  
like a quarterback.



Evans Photo



Evans Photo



Evans Photo



"Being the  
captain of the  
team, I feel as  
though I have  
to lead by  
example and  
that puts a lot  
of pressure on  
yourself."

## BEN PARRISH, '94

### VARSITY

MHS 4	Boone Grove 2
MHS 16	Hammond High 3
MHS 12	EC Central 4
MHS 3	Morton 6
MHS 3	Hobart 1
MHS 7	Portage 6
MHS 2	Andean 12
MHS 5	Crown Point 6
MHS 5	Laporte 6
MHS 10	MC Rogers 1
MHS 11	Valparaiso 3
MHS 11	Chesterton 1
MHS 3	Portage 2
MHS 0	Hobart 2
MHS 6	Crown Point 0
MHS 8	Rensselaer 4
MHS 3	Laporte 7
MHS 8	MC Rogers 3
MHS 1	Evanston 0
MHS 3	Evanston 4
MHS 10	Highland 6
MHS 2	Valparaiso 1
MHS 4	Lake Station 2
MHS 5	Chesterton 16
MHS 6	Lake Central 9
MHS 5	Portage 4
MHS 2	Munster 0
MHS 4	Munster 7

### Sectionals:

MHS 15	River Forest 0
MHS 1	Crown Point 7

### VARSITY RECORD: 19-11

DUNELAND CONFERENCE RECORD: 9-5

ALL-DUNELAND CONFERENCE TEAM:

Brett Fedak, Eddie Sobh

**PICKING UP SPEED,**  
Eugene Vivo, '97,  
completes a hand-off  
from Paul Harris, '94,  
and takes off on his leg  
of the relay.



**TORI HUGHES, '94,**  
strides to the finish line.  
Hughes was able to  
leave his closest  
competitor several  
strides behind.



*Merrillville Herald Photo*

**THE GIRLS RELAY TEAM**  
of Jessica Figueroa, Liz  
Simunic, Angee Elliott,  
and Amy Geruska, all  
'95, relax for a few  
minutes as they await  
their event.



**AMY GERUSKA, '95, FLIES**  
over the hurdles. A  
disappointed Geruska  
missed qualifying for the  
state meet in the hurdles  
by a near .01 of a  
second.



"The new facilities  
have allowed us to  
become stronger  
and therefore have  
better endurance  
and speed."

**KELLEE DERICO, '95**





Merrillville Herald Photo



# GIVING IT THEIR ALL

Athletes excel in conference

With the loss of certain seniors, one could be lead to believe that this year's track and field team wouldn't be as successful as those in the past. But, contrary to popular belief, the Pirates finally overthrew one of their toughest opponents. "This is the first time in at least ten years that we have defeated Chesterton," commented Rich Stazinski, '95.

This wasn't the only major accomplishment either. The four man relay team consisting of Tori Hughes, '94; Tyson Owen, '95; Ryan Parlock, '95; and Tony Bartolomeo, '94, took tenth in the state in the 4 X 100 relay race. And that's not even mentioning Stazinski's sixth place finish in the 3200 meter in regional competition, or Jason Miller's second place finish in the high jump for both sectionals and conference.

Stazinski, along with many other team members, have contributed time and energy every day after school during the season and even sacrificed their own personal time for the good of the team. Even on the choir's trip to Florida, Stazinski and Andy Belush, '96, jogged on a daily basis.

"I feel that all of our practice and dedication to the sport will surely pay off in the long run," commented Belush. And it did. Every member of the team contributed in some way. "This year's team maybe didn't have the same caliber as the teams in the past, but there wasn't a member who didn't give 110%," finished Stazinski.

Girls' track, on the other hand, was overabundant when it came to talent. The team started off strong and stayed strong until the very last meet. Those who stood above the rest this year were Amy Geruska, '95, Jessica Figueroa, '95, and Jennifer Herbert, '94. Each of the girls showed an extreme dedication to both the team and sport. Geruska in the 100 and 300 hurdles. Figueroa in 800, the mile, and mile relay. And finally, Herbert in both the shot put and disk. But all the credit can't be given to the girls on the team alone. The coaches played a major role in their success. "I appreciate the coaches support in both the meets and the practices, it definitely shows all of us how dedicated they are," commented Geruska.

• by Patrick Farabaugh



Merrillville Herald Photo

**TYSON OWEN, '95,** finds his stride. He was a member of the 4 x 100 relay team which placed 10th in the state.

Team pictures on page 216.

SOCCER

# GOAL ORIENTATED

Fresh faces revitalize team

This was the year for the tradition to begin. The team's goal was to bring back the Northern Cup which had been lost the past two years to Andean and Portage. Portage and Munster were big rivals because of the large soccer population in these regions.

The team's co-captains Chris Wilkerson, '94, and Lupce Kajmakski, '94, said that Coach Tim Thompson's winning attitude and experience were greatly to their advantage.

As the season began Thompson commented, "We should do a lot better than last season's 3-6-1 record. We've got a tall, strong, and fast team that has been practicing since the third week in January when we began

conditioning. With the talent we have, I believe we should finish above .500."

As the season wore on, Thompson's predictions became reality. The team went 5-1 in the conference, sharing the conference title with Crown Point and Portage who also had 5-1 records in conference play.

Four players were selected by the coaches to the All-Duneland team. They were Chris Dimitroff, '97; Lupce Kajmakski, '94; Trajce Niceski, '94; and Ryan Shelton, '94.

The Northern Cup state high school soccer tournament started off with a match between rivals Merrillville and Munster.

• by Erika Yambrisak

Team pictures on page 214.



"It was a year of firsts for us. I think we'll do good in the Northern Cup this year."



CHRIS WILKERSON, '94





**MEMBERS OF THE** soccer team practice, oblivious to the traffic observing their progress as it passes by on I-65. The young team started their season with conditioning in January and moved outside as the weather warmed up.

**SAVING THE POINT, A JV** goalie practices on a cool spring day. This was the second year that girls were allowed to participate in soccer.



**PATTI CRAIG, '94;**  
Chrissy Pozgay, '94;  
and Leah Frink, '95,  
confer at homeplate.  
An occasional conference helps keep the momentum going.



**ASSISTANT COACH**  
Pat Mulloy give Nan Malerich, '95, some tips on her base running as she stands on the bag.

**PLOTTING STRATEGY,**  
the team huddles around to listen as Coach Bob Berguson explains to game plan.



Kirk John Mitchell Photo

Kirk John Mitchell Photo



"We lost a lot of players last year, but we're responding to the challenge this year and we're doing great."

**ERIN JANOVSKY, '95**

MHS 16 Hanover Central 1  
MHS 4 Andean 0  
MHS 4 Portage 3  
MHS 10 Hobart 4  
MHS 1 Bishop Noll 0  
MHS 4 Crown Point 3  
MHS 8 LaPorte 1  
MHS 10 MC Rogers 0  
MHS 5 Valparaiso 0  
MHS 8 Highland 0  
MHS 9 Chesterton 1  
MHS 2 Portage 3  
MHS 0 Lake Central 10  
MHS 8 Hobart 0

MHS 6 Crown Point 1  
MHS 2 LaPorte 0  
MHS 6 MC Rogers 0  
MHS 9 Valparaiso 1  
MHS 5 Chesterton 1  
MHS 4 S.B. LaSalle 3  
MHS 2 Penn 0  
MHS 1 Lowell 6  
Sectionals:  
MHS 1 Andean 0  
MHS 2 Highland 1  
Regionals:  
MHS 2 Griffith 0  
MHS 1 Bishop Noll 4

**VARSITY RECORD:** 22-4  
**JV RECORD:** 10-3  
**ALL-DUNELAND TEAM:**  
Leah Frink (MVP), Erin Janovsky, Patti Craig, Amy Sopczak, and Jaime Santeramo.



## SOFTBALL

## TEAM TO BEAT

Girls remain powerhouse of state

Softball is a sport which requires a great deal of desire and dedication. While many students were relaxing in the sun on their Spring Break, the softball team began practicing twice a day beginning at 8 a.m. However, this had it's positive side also.

"Spring Break gave our team a chance to gel together, and form friendships both on and off the field," commented Kelly Webster, '96.

The team's motto was "respond to the challenge." Many girls had to step up and respond to fill the open positions from last year's seniors and Chrissy Pozgay's early season injury.

Coming off a state championship year in 1993, and the loss of five starting seniors, the Lady Pirates' early success might have seemed surprising to some.

According to Amy Sopczak, '96, "It was surprising at first, but definitely exciting." The Pirates were unde-

feated through their first 11 games.

With only three seniors on the team, everyone needed to be a leader," said Nan Malerich, '95.

Most players agreed Leah Frink, '95, was very spirited and was able to pass her motivation on to the rest of the team. Frink thought last year's team support helped her improve tremendously. "I learned what kind of attitude it takes, and the true definition of a team player. Coach Berguson's confidence in me is a key motivator for my performances on the field."

The majority of the girls felt a repeat was in their future if they worked really hard, but the Bishop Noll team had other ideas defeating the Lady Pirates in the final game of regionals.

Nevertheless, assistant coach Pat Mulloy commented, "I was extremely proud of the progress this team made."

• by Laura Maness



Kirk John Mitchell Photo



Kirk John Mitchell Photo

**LEAH FRINK, '95, LETS A** pitch fly. A star pitcher for the team on last year's state championship team, Frink proved to be a big motivator for the team.

Team picture on page 214.

# GOLF

## FORE THE FUN OF IT

Golfers go for par

A GOLFER concentrates at a daily practice session at Broadmoor, the team's home course.

Imagine a sport in which mental concentration plays a bigger part than physical ability. No, not chess, golf.

The girls golf team is proud of the numerous accomplishments they made this year. For starters, they improved 17 strokes for nine holes as a team. They averaged 220, and Amy Sopczak, '96, had a season low of 45.

One thing the girls and boys teams had in common was that most of the golfers were young. The girls team had only one senior, Cheryl Santos.

Coach Mike Hackett explained, "We're definitely better than last year. I'm real pleased with the girls' improvement as a team and individually. We're hoping to finish third in the conference as opposed to last year's fourth place."

Hackett said he tried to stay positive with the girls. He wanted them to concentrate on improving. He continued, "I

give each girl individual goals that they try to meet." Since he will only be losing one senior he looks forward to a strong team next year.

The boys started the season with all new varsity players. The entire varsity had graduated the year before. Some might think this made the team's outlook grim; however, the players looked forward to the challenge.

"A lot of people think of golf as a stupid sport where you just knock a little white ball around but it isn't. It is a very challenging sport where concentration is the most valued aspect," said Brett Parkis, '96.

He added that of all the sports he's played golf is the hardest to master. Dave Walla, '95, agreed with Parkis explaining, "Golf is really more difficult than it looks." • **by Patrick Farabaugh and Staci Skura**

### PRACTICE MAKES

perfect. Amy Sopczak, '96, works on her swing. She shot the team low of 45 at one meet this season.



Team pictures on page 213.



"I think our team will be good next year. Almost all of our varsity players are returning."

## MISSY DOBIS, '95

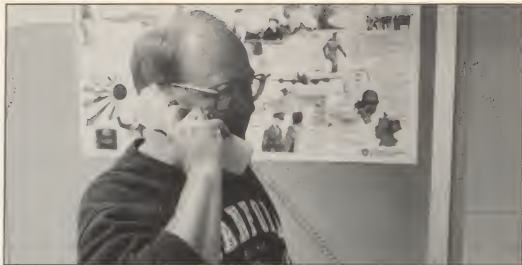
### GIRLS

MHS 216	Kankakee Valley 202
MHS 215	Munster 182
MHS 219	Bishop Noll 249
MHS 226	Valparaiso 200
MHS win by forfeit	Hobart
MHS 217	Portage 199
MHS 229	Andean 198
MHS 222	LaPorte 228
MHS 213	MC Marquette 207
MHS 211	MC Rogers 278
MHS 212	Chesterton 290
MHS 239	Lowell 248
MHS 199	Crown Point 231
MHS 226	Lake Central 202
Marquette Invitational	11th place/16
Pat Ford Invitational	14th place/20
Sectionals	7th place/13

RECORD: 7-7  
DUNELAND CONFERENCE RECORD: 5-2  
ALL-DUNELAND CONFERENCE: Amy Sopczak and Missy Dobis.

### BOYS

Sectionals 4th place/11



Bondra Photo

**SOCIAL**  
studies  
teacher Pat  
Mulloy uses his  
phone to  
check on the  
messages left  
on his voice  
mail.

**QWENDOLYN**  
Perkins, '95,  
cleans up her  
kitchen area  
after she  
finishes  
cooking.  
Students learn  
to clean up  
quickly since  
they have only  
a short time  
after their  
cooking is  
done.

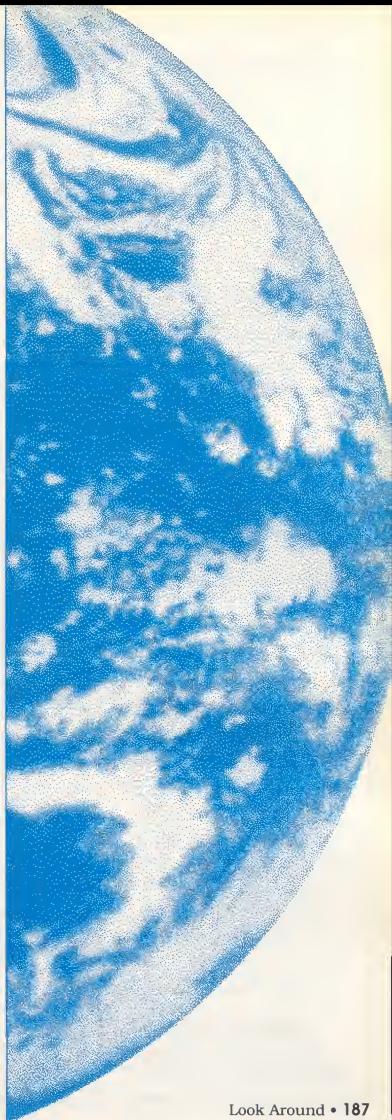
Throughout the town of Merrillville there is at least one type of every kind of business. Shops, professionals, and restaurants are just a few. If you can't find what you want, you just aren't looking hard enough. You need something? **LOOK AROUND,** you're bound to find it in Merrillville.







Bondra Photo



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## TOP TEN

Reasons we can't have food  
outside the cafeteria.

10. It might not match the carpet.
9. Other food is better.
8. Rats.
7. Roaches.
6. Somebody has to eat what Somalians won't.
5. Those sugar craving social studies teachers.
4. School food can't make you vomit.
3. If you're going to bring food, bring enough for the whole school.
2. Snapple promotes good health.
1. We can't have food outside the cafeteria?



Because teachers will get jealous. Teachers think we are getting too much freedom.!!

Ryan Derico, '97



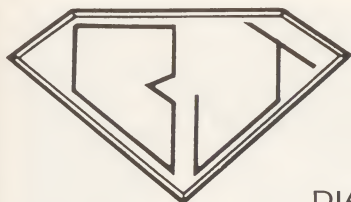
Because they just redid the school and it looks nice.!!

Kelly Koughlin, '95



Students are not to have food outside the cafeteria in order to keep the school clean.!!

Kristen Corsaro, faculty



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!! I was in line before everybody. !!

Roger Fleming, '96

!! I wasn't in line in the first place; I was just talking to my friend. !!

Jennifer Ramos, '97

!! They were saving me a spot in line. !!

Kellye Stephens, '97



# TOP TEN

Things to say when you're caught cutting in line.

10. I have to take my medication.
9. Is that a new rag you're using?
8. They were saving my spot.
7. I can't wait to see the cool colors in the meat.
6. Act deaf.
5. I'm bigger than you.
4. But they're having jello cubes.
3. LOOK! JULIA CHILD!
2. I left my crutches at the table.
1. I was in this spot yesterday.

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# M

## Student Government



JUDY JENNINGS, '96, checks to see which homerooms have turned in their list for the Christmas Wish program. The toys collected were them distributed to the less fortunate children in the Merrillville community.

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LINDA ROSE RAY

# TOP TEN

**Ways to get out of a date.**

10. Break your leg.
9. Contract an infectious disease.
8. You're moving much too slow for me.
7. My grandparents are playing Scrabble, want to go?
6. The Clintons are on C-SPAN, I can't.
5. Oh no! We're the same sex!
4. When in doubt quote the Brady's, "Something suddenly came up!"
3. Kill them.
2. My grandma is in the hospital.
1. My fish died, and I'm in mourning.



**" I have to babysit  
or do something for  
my mom. "**

Doreen Bank, '94



**" I've been  
grounded. "**

Keith Albee, '97



**" I had to attend  
my grandmother's fu-  
neral. "**

Chad Tarry, '95

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wonderful students who  
go here like me.

Jason Swigon, '94

They want the  
good money they have  
here.

Curtis Minchuk, '95

They have the  
opportunity to teach  
me!

Joe Lochmer, '95



# TOP TEN

Reasons people want to teach at MHS.

10. Summers off.
9. Unpaid potty patrol.
8. Free admission to school events.
7. They look good in purple and white.
6. They want to torture kids.
5. They love to be bored.
4. No other jobs were available at the payroll office.
3. They get to use the Wellness Center for free.
2. There's an art gallery in their backyard.
1. There's not enough room at Crown Point.

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## BEST OF LUCK CLASS OF 1994

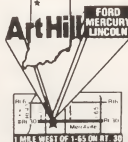
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# TOP TEN

**Scariest cafeteria foods.**

10. That funky green jello.
9. What's a poorboy?
8. Taco salad.
7. Anything with "casserole" in it's name.
6. Reuben who?
5. Jello and cake in one?
4. Those pudding cakes.
3. The Elmer's pasty cheese sauce.
2. The salad dressing with 3 inches of oil on it.
1. Anything ending in "-ito."



It's gotta be the poorboys.  
 Bobby Burkus, '97



That fluorescent yellow chicken casse-  
 role.  
 Jamie Lash, '95



I don't know, prob-  
 ably the soybean  
 burgers.  
 Cheryl Santos, '94



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!! I need to go to the TV studio and get some work done. !!

Judy Adams, '95



!! Walk out to the parking lot and just drive away. !!

Jeremy Miller, '94



!! Say you have to talk to your guidance counselor. !!

Karin Smith, '97



# TOP TEN

## Ways to Get Out of Class

10. Tell the teacher your contacts are bothering you.
9. Fake a loud, hacking cough.
8. Speak in foreign tongues.
7. Fall asleep and snore really loud.
6. Call the teacher an obscenity and giggle a lot.
5. Act like Beavis and Butthead.
4. Make a pass at the teacher.
3. Wet your pants and say "I told you so."
2. Wet your pants and say "Oops!"
1. Tell the teacher you like their dress pant/ sneaker combination.

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**Good Luck!**  
**Class of '94**

# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 1994 FROM WMHS AND PNN

(Pirate News Network)

Judy Adams, '95, shoots part of the "Blast" video for Student Government, one of several projects taped by the club. WMHS was responsible for a weekly PNN broadcast during homeroom and getting the radio station on the air the last few weeks of school.



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Stephanie Pagel

**We are so proud  
of you.**

Love,  
Mom and Dad

## CONGRATULATIONS SUNNYE



Sunnys Durham

We never doubted you for a moment!  
Whichever direction you choose to fly,  
you have our love and support!  
Keep beaming, Sunshine.

**LOVE,  
MOM AND DAD**

## Congratulations Jenni



*This is a fine world  
for those who know  
precisely what they want  
out of life and are busy  
getting it.*

Love,  
Mom and Dad

Jennifer Lynn Smith



**I'm very proud of you,  
Jason!**



Jason Little

**Set No Limits - EXCEL!!  
You Can Do It!**

Love Always,  
Mom

## "Big M"

What a "Wonderful Gift" God gave us . . . You!



Mike Pratscher

**You've made us  
proud, world  
traveler.**

Love,  
Mom, Dad, April,  
and Val





Tom Gayda

Hold on to your dreams and strive for your best. May all of your deadlines be on time. Best wishes for the future.

Mrs. S. and  
the Merrillvue Staff

# TOP TEN

Things the faculty does on weekends.

10. Bowl.
9. Grippe.
8. Forget to grade papers.
7. Crossword puzzles.
6. Make a list of clever (lame) cut-downs.
5. Watch CNN.
4. Play poker.
3. Conga.
2. Participate in the local mud wrestling league.
1. Figure out where the IA hallways are located.



They grade papers.

Brad Bernard, '95



They live here.  
They eat, drink, sleep,  
and dream school.

Kelly Walters, '95



They sit at home.

Christine Ganga, '97

**Best Wishes  
to the  
Class of 1994  
from JEA**



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Patrick Farabaugh, '95, fills out the paperwork to open a new account at Mercantile National Bank.



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'' Late to class day. ''

Krystal Renchan, '96

'' Bungee jumping Day. ''

Missy Stelter, '95

'' Swimsuit Day. ''

Rich Stazinski, '95



# TOP TEN

Spirit point events that will never happen.

10. Donut day.
9. No homework week.
8. Free tardies day.
7. All day lunch hour.
6. MTV on the Dynacom system.
5. A week of half days.
4. Pep rally.
3. Trading places with Dr. Rapacz day.
2. Three day weekends.
1. Non-attendance day.

**GOOD LUCK  
IN THE FUTURE  
CLASS OF '94**

**QUILL and  
SCROLL**

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Chris,**



Chris Stark

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You finally made it.**

*Love,  
Mom and Dad*

**Congratulations,  
Danyelle**



Danyelle Gunn

**We're proud of your  
accomplishments.**

*Love,  
Mom and Dad*

**Congratulations  
Kimberley**



Kimberley Evans

**The joy and love  
your life shows blesses  
all who know you.**

*Love,  
Mom and Ed*

**RACHEL TORRES  
CONGRATULATIONS, RACHEL-O!**



**We're very proud  
of you and your  
accomplishments.**

*Love,  
Mom and Pop*



**Congratulations,  
Margaret**



Margaret Toledo

**Love,  
Mom, Dad, Vicky,  
Juanita, Maria,  
and Izzy**

**Congratulations, David**



David Mahaffey

**You've made us  
proud!  
May all your  
dreams  
come true.**

**Love, Mom and Dad**



**Congratulations,  
Julie**



Julie Jewell

**We're proud of your  
accomplishments.**

**Love,  
Mom and Dad**

# TOP TEN

- Reasons students aren't allowed in Teacher's Aide.**
10. They talk about students.
  9. Pizza party every Friday!
  8. They tell dirty jokes.
  7. Teens don't like Tupperware parties.
  6. They don't want us to know there is really nothing in there we can't see.
  5. Mailboxes are a portal to another dimension.
  4. Line dancing lessons in passing period.
  3. Wasn't she on America's Most Wanted?
  2. Oh my gosh - is that Miss Colson?
  1. Gambling is illegal for minors.



**" It's just such a  
happening place. "**

Amanda Richardson, '96



**" That's where they  
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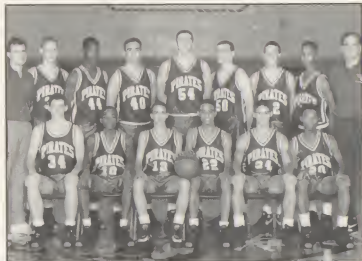
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**GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL:** Row 1 - Dawn Fox, Carrie Zapinski, Cheryl Santos, Michelle Borman, Chenetta Blacknell. Row 2 - Manager Abby Vio, Head Coach Lori Dust, Chrissy Puggay, Ronda Price, Rachel Price, Lori Modlin, Jenny Herbert, Leah Frink, Coach Randy Steller.

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**JV CHEERLEADERS:** Row 1 - Kim Anderson, Alyssa Wright, Missy McCorry, Megan Wojciechowski, Row 2 - Bridgette Praszak, April Pratscher, Jennifer Draper.



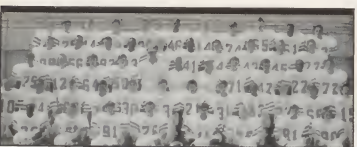
**VARSITY CHEERLEADERS:** Row 1 - Erica Yambriak, Angela Mish, Aleisha Rodriguez, Erica Walla, Row 2 - Angela Byrom, Samantha Sherwood, Kimberly Gutierrez, Wendy Adams, Row 3 - Kristen Lucia, Mandy Olejnik, Michelle Mysliwiec.



**BOYS CROSS COUNTRY:** Row 1 - Eugene Vivo, Rich Stazinski, Ted Phillips, Dave Kamano. Row 2 - Aaron Malerich, Coach Greg Pierson, Ray Lucero.



**GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY:** Row 1 - Ann Gorman, Angela Wusik, Jill Harnis, Nicole Hyatt, Michelle Lenart. Row 2 - Jessica Figueroa, Coach JoAnna Crawford, Erin Yeoman, Bobbi Cunningham, Julie Milak, Sarah Katchart.



**FRESHMAN FOOTBALL:** Row 1 - Ryan Derico, Matt Malocha, James Simandl, Brandon Dzunda, Javier Rosas, Derek Simpson, Jeff Buchko, Rich Hamilton. Row 2 - Joe Giorando, Mike Stath, Larry Chandler, Chris Celeksi, Jim Klein, Mike Rathburn, Justin Gear, Mike Nalborky, Angelo Howard, Allan Smith, David Almone, Mike Coughlin. Row 3 - John Miller, Matt Banas, Joe Mihos, Chris Eastlee, Randy Stetler, Jim Wiggins, Ed Herbert, Steven Bugg, Brandon Whittier, Montell Pace, Mike Pierson. Row 4 - Neal Fedak, Mike Ferjo, Eric Vargas, Raymond Montgomery, Marc Bruner, Marion Anderson, Mike Flan, Mike Robbins, Frank, Halcarr, Jason Byars. Row 5 - Brad Balcarac, Mike Oliver, David Downs, Ryan Remenius, Mike Stupar, JeffThames, Brit Hoffman, Greg Mallory, Ben Olson, Dorin Derico, Peter Ilevski.

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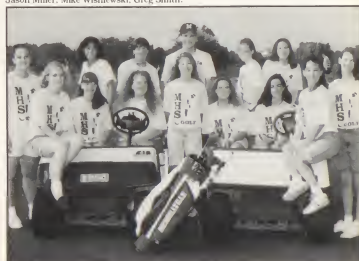
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**VARSITY FOOTBALL:** Row 1 - Mike Villanueva, Mike Clark, Kevin Pruess, Chris Muwercik, Bob Bozowski, Willy Origel, Brian Schiefer, Tom Bolden, Mark Hylek, Marino Stath, Clint Henry, Dave Mahaffey, Row 2 - Manager Kelly Coughlin, Andy Belush, Chris Brown, Aaron Shelton, Corey West, Pat Schultz, Kevin Emery, Kevin Abers, Ben Parrish, Warren Conner, Brennan Seydel, Ben Shapley, Jeremy Schwandt, Dan Shih, Manager Jamie Childress, Row 3 - Steve Dobos, Student Trainer Aubrey Kelly, Student Trainer Kim Simpson, Coach Joe Altra, Coach Jeff Clinkler, Coach Mike Krutz, Coach Jeff Vetter, Coach Ken Coudret, Head Coach Rick Winner, Coach Larry Zembala, Coach Dennis Hamilton, Statistician Bob Moore, Trainer Sherm Isaac, Student Trainer Jamie Aubin, Student Trainer Katie Foreman, Row 4 - Brad Kosac, Mario Munguia, Ryan Valentine, Kevin Dobos, Matt Mitch, Joe Barker, Adam Cereabum, Dave Harvey, Jamie Laah, Tyson Owen, Daniel Harvey, Matt Seiker, Tony Bartolomeo, Jason Simpson, Row 5 - Michael Hampton, Mike Mikesell, Geoff Gronowski, Ryan Parlock, Mike Gurnsey, Ryan Miller, Eric Jostes, Nigel Walton, Matt Lewicki, Andy Crane, Vic Lopez, Brian Bratcher, Row 6 - Rob Eaton, Chris DeMure, Mike Curiel, Jeremy Walls, Dave Castiel, Joe Hussey, Greg Bachich, Joe Ryan, Shawn Newman, Justin Ramage, Jon Shultz, Row 7 - Jeremy Goins, Brian Nery, Phil Lewis, Jason Galobos, Terry Narkum, Jason Berk, Harry Sims, Brian Hogan, Kevin Smith, Jason Miller, Mike Wisniewski, Greg Smith.



**GIRLS GOLF:** Row 1 - Sarah Felinski, Megan Dixon, Missy Dobos, Erica Walla, Jamie Dobos, Carollina Procter, Cheryl Santos, Row 2 - Kelly Meeks, Assistant coach Vicki Peters, Amy Sopczak, Coach Mike Hackett, Brandi Vucko, Tricia Cantrell, Emily Walla.



**GYMNASTICS:** Row 1 - Lyndi Tegman, Sarah Wesley, Row 2 - Kelley Jenkins, Jenny Bryan, Cindy Brown, Sarah Chirish, Becky Schreiber, Tina Guzik, Row 3 - Heather Luedke, Beth Zick, Coach Diane Roberts, Kristin Lucia, Tiffany Albee, Staci Skura, Amy Sopczak, Assistant coach Bill Roberts, Lisa Zaff.





**JV SOCCER:** Row 1 - Sean Duck, Nick Gonzalez, Miroslav Radiceski, Hank Pimentel, Mark Mengel, Jeremiah Lagalo, Mandy Sopko, Delphine Wedding, Row 2 - Karl Forster, Natalie Connor, Joe Horst, John Miller, Bill Fairbairn, Nemanja Kljajic, Josh Gross, Ben Jarvis, Coach Tim Thompson.



**VARSITY SOCCER:** Row 1 - Mike Tyrikos, Tim Sopko, Chris Dimitroff, Trajce Nicski, Mark Lengyel, Hank Pimentel, Eric Forster. Row 2 - Deric Wilson, Chris Wilkerson, Terry Zapinski, Ryan Shelton, Mike Thien, Warren Connor, Robert Zimnawoda, Coach Tim Thompson.



**SOFTBALL:** Row 1 - Coach Frink, Lisa Zak, Michelle Jones, Carolina Procter, Patti Craig, Sara Nicholls, Kelly Webster, Alyssa Wright. Row 2 - Jaine Santeramo, Jennifer Spitz, Linda Myslewicz, Dawn Fox, Amy Sopcak, Manager Shelley Penzato, Coach Bob Berguson. Row 3 - Assistant coach Pat Mulloy, Laura Maness, Leah Frink, Chrissy Pozgay, Erin Janovsky, Nanette Malerich, Megan Maloney.

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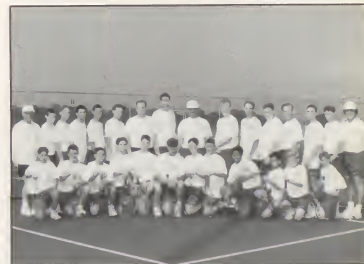
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**BOYS SWIMMING AND DIVING:** Row 1 - Coach Ed Glick, Erick Randolph, Rob Brodner, Ryan Brown, Bob Verbik, Adam Rosaves. Row 2 - John Sell, Aaron Malerich, Mike Jonson, Chris Sukich, Matt Nichols, Coach Brian Angerman.



**GIRLS SWIMMING AND DIVING:** Row 1 - Diving coach Bill Roberts, Lindsay Mandich, Angie Stapinski, Cathy Navarro, Marie-Claire Foster, Morgan Gray, Assistant coach Byron Angerman. Row 2 - April Pieroni, Stephanie Nicolini, Sara Litty, Christy Pierce, Kyle Bedore, Megan Pendley, Amy Howland. Row 3 - Coach Ed Glick, Roshanta Parker, Jennifer Pozniak, Kim Jakich, Kristin Lucia, Karl Dombrowsky, Kathy Cannon.



**BOYS TENNIS:** Row 1 - Jeff Vanvolkenburgh, Manager Nestor Rivera, T.J. Stochel, John Harms, Jon Garcia, Sid Rivera, Kevin Emmet. Row 2 - Coach Dave Zimmerman, Ben Jarvis, Tim Sopko, Sean McConnell, Joe Moore, Rich Deel, Jeremy McClain, Paul Puskar, Brandon Nelson, Assistant coach Peter Levinson. Row 3 - Assistant coach John Lepp, Josh Larson, Karl Meyer, Eddie Sobh, T.J. Lux, Chris Baker, Tom Repp, Ryan Brown, Eric Culp, Assistant coach Larry Swanson.



**GIRLS TENNIS:** Row 1 - Amy Gutierrez, Barbara Hoagland, Chery Gonzalez, Coach Dave Zimmerman, Ann Gorman, Jennifer Metros, Ann DeNardo, Row 2 - Pam Ruschak, Toulia Vasilopoulos, Shelly Boedecker, Kim Onoff, Tina Guzik, Angie Corea. Row 3 - Assistant coach Larry Swanson, Judy Jennings, Katie Pawl, Kristen Sommers, Michelle Lennert, Debbie Kings, Assistant coach Ferrar Levinson.



**BOYS TRACK:** Row 1 - John Harms, Andy Belush, Tony Bartolomeo, Coach Ken Coudret, Rich Stapinski, Kevin Preuss, Jason Simpson. Row 2 - Joe Ryan, Ryan Parlock, Tyson Owen, Willie Origel, Rick Mezo, Mike Filan, Jason Byers, Rob Eaton. Row 3 - Coach Jeff Clinkensbeard, Joe Hussey, Tom Bolden, Ben Shapley, Steve Krstevski, Coach Rick Wimmer. Row 4 - Paul Harris, Chris DeMure, Mike Churilla, Corey West, Joe Foster, Jason Miller, Kevin Emry, Tony Hughes. Row 5 - Eugene Vivo, Ryan Derico, Terrance Williamson, Coach Larry Zembla, Dorin Derico, Frank Halcarz, Greg Mallory, Jason Hastings.



**GIRLS TRACK:** Row 1 - Lisa Taylor, Marianne Maj, Angee Elliott, Kellee Derico, Coach Joe Atria, Sonja Mitchell, Tracy Parker, Aubrey Kelly, Heather Luedtke, Row 2 - Megan Pendley, April Pratscher, Vanessa Bielawski. Row 3 - Assistant Coach Albert Snowden, Krystal Renshan, Liz Simurik, Katie Foreman, Jenny Herbert, Jessica Figueroa, Assistant coach Becky Ebert. Row 4 - Jill Harms, Rhonda Price, Amy Geruska, Many Olejnik, Kristen Lucia, Assistant coach Karen Hrabota.

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Zolodz, Rebecca 75, 123  
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Zolondz, Paul 133  
Zorich, Christine 123





Bondara Photo

**ONE OF DAVE TEETER'S** graphic arts students models a University of Merrillville t-shirt made in the shop. The idea originated because people who drive by on I-65 constantly comment that MHS looks like a university.

**MOVING THEIR TASSLE** was the final act of the Class of 1994. With the conclusion of this symbolic gesture, Jody Balcerak and Chris Baker became alumni.



Forabough Photo

**PRINCIPAL** Dr. Daniel C. Rapacz waves at the seniors as they drive by. The Senior Drive-by is one of the annual traditions filling the seniors' last days of the school year. The event is the conclusion to the annual Senior Breakfast held in the school cafeteria.



**WRESTLING:** Row 1 - Matmaid Jamie McKenney, Ken Swan, Jared Tabor, Mike Villanueva, Sid Rivera, David Vode, Matmaid Jennifer Gabriel. Row 2 - Ted Phillips, Tim Lavery, Ray Lucero, Dan Harvey. Row 3 - Matmaid Staci Ahrens, Coach Chris Joll, Ed Brant, Ryan Valentine, Jeremy Schwardt, Tyson Owen, Mike Mikesell, Assistant coach Chris Rassbach, Assistant coach Charles Smith, Matmaid April Pratscher.



**FRESHMAN VOLLEYBALL:** Row 1 - Coach Colleen Collins, Valerie Boromisa, Stephanie Valse, Jenny Vukin, Kris Burke, Sam Dimoff, Jenny Johnson, Coach Lori Covacic. Row 2 - Sharon Segvich, Mandy Sopko, Melba Montgomery, Natalie Nimon, Sarah Frink, Rebekah Jusko.



**JV VOLLEYBALL:** Row 1 - Coach Colleen Collins, Cynthia Garcia, Claudia Neri, Linda Mysliwiec, Wava Riddle, Ann DeNardo. Row 2 - Kelly Webster, Toula Vasilopoulos, Karl Forster, Kristen Marler, Theresa Sievers.

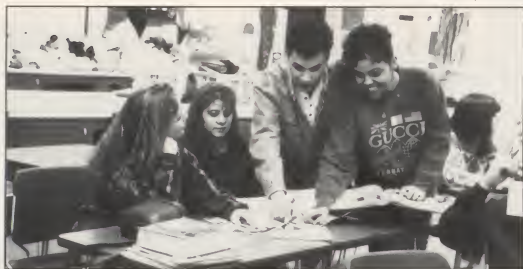


**VARSITY VOLLEYBALL:** Row 1 - Angie Harris, Beth Zak, Megan Moloney, Chrissy Pozgay. Row 2 - Ronda Price, DeDe Riddle, Rachel Price, Nan Malerich, Coach Amy Beckham. Row 3 - Assistant coach Colleen Collins, Assistant coach Lori Covacic.

**CHOIR DIREC-**  
tor Roger Emig  
blazes away  
with his Super  
Soaker at his  
Concert Choir  
on the last  
day of school.



Abby Vivo Photo



Farabaugh Photo

Times change as do people. New memories are born during events that provide entertainment. In order to best appreciate these happenings a new look must be given to each of them -

## A DIFFERENT LOOK.

### STUDENTS TAKE

a few minutes out of their busy day to check out the latest Prom fashions in a magazine. Students spent hours trying to make everything perfect for the big night.

### GETTING IT

right. Athletes practiced for hours to be able to improve their skills.







Farabaugh Photo

**1994 MERRILLVUE** staff takes a break from a hectic deadline schedule to pose for their staff picture.

**JENNIE WOOD,** '95, tries to open her locker after school hours. Students must have a pass to do this simple task after 3:15 p.m.

# A Different Look

## 1994 MERRILLVUE

<b>THEME.....</b>	A Different Look
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<b>CLUB PHOTOS.....</b>	John Giolas Photographers
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Farabaugh Photo



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